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               IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
               FOR THE MIDDLE DISTRICT OF TENNESSEE
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                        NASHVILLE DIVISION
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    BOZA PLEASANT-BEY,
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5
        Plaintiff,
                                    )
                                        Case No. 3:19-cv-00486
    VS.
                                        JUDGE TRAUGER
 6
                                    )
                                        JURY DEMAND
                                    )
7
     STATE OF TENNESSEE, et al,
                                    )
     Defendants.
8
                                    )
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                 DEPOSITION OF VINCENT FINAMORE
16
                      TAKEN ON JUNE 17, 2021
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22
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Page 2
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LINAIM	JRE, VINCENT ON 06/1	1/2021	Page 3
1		TABLE OF CONTENTS	Page 3
2			
3	Witness		Page
4			
5		MODE.	
6	VINCENT FINA		
7	Examination :		6 90
8	Examination	by Mr. Aumann	140
9			
10			
11			
12		LIST OF EXHIBITS	
13			
14	Number D	escription	Page
15			
16	1*	Witness's notes	8
17	2	Deposition notice	11
18	3	November 2017 comptroller report	16
19	4	Comptroller's performance audit of TDOC, January 2020	26
20	5	Working papers	42
21	6	TDOC 012403	54
22	7	TDOC 013292	55
23	8	TDOC 013524	58
24	9	TDOC 014907	62
25			

I IIVAIVIO	IL, VINCLINI OII OO/17/2	021	r age 4
1	10	TDOC 012355	Page 4 <b>65</b>
2	11	TDOC 015330	66
3	12	TDOC 014498	68
4	13	TDOC 011758	70
5	14	TDOC 012554	72
6	15	TDOC 013491	76
7	16	TDOC 016008	77
8	17	TDOC 013295	79
9	18	TDOC 029720	81
10	19	TDOC 010081	82
11		News articles beginning with TDOC 013562	87
12	* (denotes la	te-filed exhibit)	
13			
14			
15			
16			
17			
18			
19			
20			
21			
22			
23			
24			
25			

1	Page 5 S T I P U L A T I O N
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4	The deposition of Vincent Finamore, taken on
5	behalf of the plaintiff, remotely via Zoom, by agreement
6	of parties, on June 17, 2021, for all purposes allowed
7	under the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure.
8	It is agreed that Carole K. Briggs, licensed
9	court reporter for the State of Tennessee, may swear the
10	witness, take his deposition, and afterwards reduce same
11	to typewritten form, and that the reading and signing of
12	the completed deposition by the witness is not waived.
13	All formalities as to notice, caption,
14	certificate, et cetera, are expressly waived. All
15	objections, except as to the form of the question, are
16	reserved to the hearing.
17	
18	(Unless previously provided, all names are spelled phonetically, to the best of the court reporter's
19	ability.)
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1	Page 6 (Whereupon, the foregoing deposition		
2	began at 9:02 a.m.)		
3	THE COURT REPORTER: Good morning. Today is		
4	June 17, 2021 at 9:02 a.m. At this time, would each		
5	attorney please introduce yourself, who you represent,		
6	and that you agree to take this deposition by Zoom.		
7	MS. HERZFELD: Tricia Herzfeld. I represent		
8	Mr. Pleasant-Bey. And I agree to take the deposition by		
9	Zoom.		
10	MR. AUMANN: This is Tom Aumann for the TDOC		
11	defendants. And I agree to take the deposition by Zoom.		
12	MS. POLLY: Erin Palmer Polly and Joe Welborn		
13	for the CoreCivic defendants. We agree to take the		
14	deposition by Zoom.		
15	MS. MAXWELL: I'm Stephanie Maxwell on behalf		
16	of the comptroller's office and Vince Finamore. And I		
17	agree to take the deposition by Zoom.		
18	Whereupon,		
19	VINCENT FINAMORE,		
20	having been first duly sworn, was examined and deposed		
21	as follows:		
22	EXAMINATION BY MS. HERZFELD:		
23	Q. Good morning.		
24	A. Good morning.		
25	Q. Could you state your name and spell it for		

- 1 the record, please.
- 2 A. Name is Vincent Finamore. V-I-N-C-E-N-T,
- $3 \quad F-I-N-A-M-O-R-E$ .
- 4 Q. What is your position, Mr. Finamore?
- 5 A. Legislative performance auditor with the
- 6 comptroller's office, State of Tennessee.
- 7 Q. How long have you been in that position?
- 8 A. About 15 years.
- 9 Q. Do you understand you're here for a
- 10 deposition today?
- 11 A. Yeah.
- 12 Q. Have you ever given a deposition before?
- 13 A. No.
- 14 Q. I notice you're looking down at something.
- 15 What is it that you are looking at?
- 16 A. I just have some notes.
- 17 Q. Are they notes that you prepared for
- 18 yourself?
- 19 A. Correct.
- Q. Could you show me those notes.
- 21 (Witness complies.)
- Q. Okay, great. And did you prepare those in
- 23 advance of your deposition today?
- 24 A. Correct.
- Q. Okay, great. Did counsel help you prepare

- 1 those notes at all?
- 2 A. No.
- 3 MS. HERZFELD: If we could go ahead and make
- 4 his notes Exhibit A to the deposition.
- 5 (Exhibit 1 was marked late-filed.)
- 6 BY MS. HERZFELD:
- 7 Q. And today you've been designated as the
- 8 individual that is supposed to be testifying on behalf
- 9 of the comptroller's office. Do you understand that to
- 10 be your role today?
- 11 A. Correct.
- 12 MR. AUMANN: I'm sorry. Tricia, did you say
- 13 Exhibit A as in apple?
- MS. HERZFELD: Oh, yeah, or 1. I guess we
- 15 can say 1. One is probably better. Thanks for the
- 16 clarification on that.
- MR. AUMANN: No problem.
- 18 BY MS. HERZFELD:
- 19 Q. And you understand you're giving testimony
- 20 today on behalf of the comptroller's office?
- 21 A. Correct.
- 22 Q. So when you're giving an answer, that is as
- 23 though the comptroller's office is speaking. You are
- 24 speaking on their behalf. You understand that?
- 25 A. Correct.

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1	Q. Are you represented by an attorney here
2	today?
3	A. Ms. Maxwell.
4	Q. Did you meet with Ms. Maxwell in advance of
5	your deposition today?
6	A. I guess briefly.
7	Q. Don't tell me what you talked about, but when
8	did you meet and for how long?
9	A. I believe on Monday we talked for two hours.
10	And there was another time, I don't remember the exact
11	date on that.
12	Q. Did you speak with Mr. Aumann at all or
13	anybody from the state attorney general's office in
14	advance of your deposition today?
15	A. I also spoke with Mr. Aumann as well.
16	Q. When was that?
17	A. Also on Monday.
18	Q. At the same meeting?
19	A. Same meeting.
20	Q. Was that in person or was it on the phone or
21	over Zoom?
22	A. On Zoom.
23	Q. Was there anyone else present in that
24	meeting?
25	A. No, ma'am.

- 1 Q. Did you speak with anyone about your
- 2 preparation for your deposition today, other than Ms.
- 3 Maxwell or Mr. Aumann?
- A. No, ma'am.
- 5 Q. Do you have an awareness of what this lawsuit
- 6 is about?
- 7 A. Vaguely --
- 8 Q. Okay, and what is your --
- 9 A. -- not specific. Just what it says in the
- 10 deposition or the -- yeah, I'm not very familiar with
- 11 what is it.
- 12 Q. Have you read the complaint in the case at
- 13 all?
- 14 A. Just what we -- was provided by the
- 15 deposition.
- 16 Q. So the deposition notice is what you're
- 17 referring to?
- 18 A. Right.
- 19 Q. I am going to go ahead and try to screen
- 20 share. Which I'm going to admit, normally I have
- 21 somebody to help me do this, so you all give me a little
- 22 grace here. Did it share, can you see it?
- A. Uh-huh.
- Q. And is that the deposition notice?
- 25 A. If you open it, I can be sure that it is.

Page 11 1 **Q**. I'm trying. Give me one second. It will not 2 share my screen. 3 MS. HERZFELD: Can we go off the record. 4 (Off-the-record discussion.) 5 BY MS. HERZFELD: We're back on the record, Mr. Finamore. 6 Q. 7 have handed you what we'll mark as Exhibit 2 to the deposition. 8 9 (Exhibit 2 was marked.) 10 BY MS. HERZFELD: 11 Is this the notice that you received to Q. 12 attend the deposition today? 13 Α. Correct. 14 And you've had an opportunity to review it 0. 15 before today's deposition? 16 Α. Correct. 17 Have you had an opportunity to review the Q. 18 instructions to the 30(b)(6) notice? 19 Α. Correct. 20 And you've been designated to speak on all Q. topics today, including the first audit of Trousdale, 21 22 the second audit and report of Trousdale, and then these 23 other topics, three, four, five, six, seven, eight, and 24 then nine; is that correct? 25 A. Correct.

- 1 Q. And is there any area that's been designated
- 2 in this notice that you do not feel prepared to testify
- 3 on today?
- 4 A. I don't believe so.
- 5 Q. Okay. Great. Do you see my face now, or do
- 6 you still see the document?
- 7 A. I'm not seeing your face.
- 8 Q. Okay, hold on. You said before that you've
- 9 never given testimony before; is that correct?
- 10 A. That's correct.
- 11 Q. What is your educational background?
- 12 A. I have a bachelor's in psychology and a
- 13 master's of arts in industrial organizational
- 14 psychology.
- 15 Q. Were you involved at all in what we'll call
- 16 the November 2017 compliance report that was done
- 17 regarding Trousdale?
- 18 A. I was.
- 19 Q. What was your role?
- 20 A. I was one of the in-charges.
- 21 Q. I'm sorry, you were one of the?
- 22 A. In-charge, audit in-charges. A supervisor
- 23 role.
- Q. And what is an audit in-charge?
- 25 A. In-charge is basically a front-line

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Page	1	3	

- supervisor for the audit. 1
- 2 Q. And how many in-charges were there for this
- 3 audit?
- 4 Α. There was one other in-charge.
- 5 0. Who was it?
- 6 Α. That was David Wright.
- And is Mr. Wright still employed by the 7 Q.
- comptroller's office? 8
- 9 He is. Α.
- 10 So an in-charge means you were in a Q.
- 11 supervisory role; is that right?
- 12 Α. Correct.
- 13 And was there anyone in a supervisory role Q.
- 14 over you and Mr. Wright?
- 15 A. There was a manager.
- 16 Q. Who was the manager?
- 17 Α. Ms. Dena Winningham.
- 18 What is her role? Q.
- 19 She was the manager of the audit. Α.
- 20 And there's just one manager? Q.
- 21 For that audit, correct. Α.
- 22 And how many people were you supervising? Q.
- 23 Two other people. A.
- 24 Q. And who are they?
- 25 Α. Greg Spradley and Fonda Douglas. And we have

- 1 one additional auditor that came on in the last month of
- 2 the project or so, just to help write up -- when we were
- 3 writing the report.
- 4 O. Who was that?
- A. Jafar Ware.
- Q. Are those three individuals still employed by
- 7 the comptroller's office?
- 8 A. They are not.
- 9 Q. Are any of them still employed by the
- 10 comptroller's office?
- 11 A. Of those three, no, ma'am.
- 12 Q. Do you know why any of them are no longer
- 13 employed by the comptroller's office?
- 14 A. I do not know specifically why, no.
- 15 Q. Was it performance related for any of the
- 16 three?
- 17 A. Not that I'm aware of. Like I said, I don't
- 18 -- I do not know the circumstances.
- 19 Q. Did they leave at the same time or different
- 20 times?
- 21 A. Different times.
- 22 Q. Have you had an opportunity to review the
- 23 2017 report in advance of your deposition today?
- A. Yes, ma'am.
- 25 Q. Does the department stand behind the findings

- 1 and conclusions in that report?
- 2 Α. They do.
- 3 And it was accurate at the time that it was 0.
- 4 written?
- 5 Α. Yes, ma'am.
- Are there any corrections or changes that the 6 Q.
- 7 department would make to that report?
- 8 A. Not that I am aware of, no.
- 9 Okay, great. Do you know if there were any 0.
- 10 drafts of that report before the final one?
- 11 Α. Yes, there were several drafts.
- 12 And where are those drafts held? Where are Q.
- 13 they stored?
- 14 They should be in the audit, within the Α.
- 15 working papers.
- 16 Q. And when you say within the working papers,
- 17 what do you mean by that?
- 18 The information that is in T-Mate in our
- 19 files, in our -- I guess we have a software program or
- 20 database that holds our working papers.
- 21 Q. Do you know if those working papers were all
- 22 provided to us in this litigation.
- 23 As far as I know, they were. Α.
- 24 0. Are the drafts labeled as drafts?
- 25 Not all of them may be labeled as drafts. Α.

- 1 They should have been. I think so, yeah.
- Q. And so going back into that production, if
- 3 it's a draft versus the final, it should very clearly
- 4 say that it's a draft?
- 5 A. Correct.
- 6 Q. Do you recall if there were any major
- 7 substantive changes that were made in the conclusions of
- 8 the report from kind of beginning to end?
- 9 A. I do not remember anything substantial.
- 10 Q. I'm going to try to screen share again, so
- 11 bear with me. Guaranteed to be a disaster. Do you see
- 12 this document?
- 13 A. I do.
- 14 Q. And is that the November 2017 report that we
- 15 were just discussing?
- 16 A. It is.
- MS. HERZFELD: And I will make this Exhibit 2
- 18 to the deposition.
- 19 THE COURT REPORTER: I think that will be
- 20 Exhibit 3.
- MS. HERZFELD: It is because we put in the
- 22 notice. You're absolutely right, Exhibit 3. Thank you.
- 23 (Exhibit 3 was marked.)
- 24 BY MS. HERZFELD:
- 25 Q. Should be back to me now. In that report

- 1 there is a reference to the turnover rate. Do you know
- 2 what the turnover rate is, what that references in the
- 3 report?
- 4 A. Yes, that was the turnover rate for the State
- 5 of Tennessee correctional officers.
- 6 Q. What about turnover rate regarding Trousdale,
- 7 do you have any information about that?
- 8 A. In that audit, I don't believe we did.
- 9 Q. And is there an acceptable or a rate of
- 10 turnover rate that is acceptable in the corrections
- 11 industry to your knowledge?
- MR. AUMANN: Objection.
- MS. POLLY: Object to the form.
- MS. HERZFELD: You can answer the question.
- 15 THE WITNESS: I'm not aware of the exact
- 16 turnover rate that is acceptable.
- 17 BY MS. HERZFELD:
- 18 Q. Mr. Finamore, do you think that there is a
- 19 relationship between safety and staffing inside of a
- 20 prison?
- 21 MS. POLLY: Object to the form.
- MS. HERZFELD: You can answer it, sir.
- 23 THE WITNESS: I believe that it's related to
- 24 the safety in some way.
- 25 BY MS. HERZFELD:

- 1 Q. Do you agree that there could be a
- 2 relationship between understaffing of a facility and
- 3 inmate violence?
- 4 MS. POLLY: Object to the form.
- 5 MR. AUMANN: Objection to form.
- 6 MS. HERZFELD: You can answer the question.
- 7 When they object, you can still answer.
- 8 THE WITNESS: At some base level, I'm sure
- 9 there probably could be.
- 10 BY MS. HERZFELD:
- 11 Q. Would you agree that fewer facility searches
- 12 can result -- I'm sorry, strike that. Do you agree that
- 13 if a facility is understaffed, that that understaffed
- 14 facility would have less searches?
- MS. POLLY: Object to the form.
- MS. HERZFELD: You can answer it, sir.
- 17 THE WITNESS: Obviously, the resources that
- 18 they have available would probably help dictate the
- 19 searches that they could do.
- 20 BY MS. HERZFELD:
- 21 Q. And if they have less resources for searches,
- 22 there is less likelihood that things like drugs or
- 23 contraband could be found?
- MS. POLLY: Object to the form.
- MS. HERZFELD: Sir, when they object, you can

- 1 still answer.
- 2 THE WITNESS: Okay. I guess it's a
- 3 likelihood of that occurring. But I can't be sure.
- 4 BY MS. HERZFELD:
- 5 Q. What about if a facility is understaffed,
- 6 what type of impact do you think that would have on
- 7 employee stress?
- 8 MS. POLLY: Object to the form.
- 9 THE WITNESS: Depends on, obviously, where
- 10 the staff reductions are. But naturally, if longer
- 11 hours were needed to be worked, it could increase
- 12 stress, yeah.
- 13 BY MS. HERZFELD:
- Q. What is the comptroller's job? What is the
- 15 purpose of the comptroller doing audits and reports
- 16 about various facilities within the state?
- 17 A. Our job is to do performance audits or
- 18 reviews of agencies on behalf of the legislature. In
- 19 this case, it was -- we were doing an audit on the
- 20 department of correction. And it's part of the sunset
- 21 review process. Each agency has a cycle that they -- to
- 22 be renewed every few years. And when their cycle is up,
- 23 they come before the legislature, governmental
- 24 operations committee, and they decide to continue with
- 25 the department or not. And they generally like to hear

- 1 any performance issues that are going on in that
- 2 department. And our job is to go in and do a
- 3 performance audit before the sunset date.
- 4 Q. So when the department does a performance
- 5 audit of TDOC, does that include the facilities that are
- 6 contracted with private prison service providers?
- 7 A. It does.
- 8 Q. So in this case, that would include CoreCivic
- 9 facilities?
- 10 A. Correct.
- 11 Q. And is Trousdale Turner one of those
- 12 facilities?
- 13 A. It is.
- 14 Q. And when an audit is performed on Trousdale,
- 15 is one of the things that the department is looking at
- 16 for compliance of the contract?
- 17 A. Again, we were auditing the department of
- 18 correction. And yes, we would be looking at contract
- 19 compliance between the facility and the contract with
- 20 the department.
- Q. Why is that?
- 22 A. To ensure that the contract is being complied
- 23 with. Policies --
- Q. Why is that -- I didn't mean to interrupt
- 25 you. Go ahead.

- 1 A. It's just that's our role, is to look at
- 2 policies and procedures and to ensure that -- well, part
- 3 of our job really is that we're evaluating whether the
- 4 contract monitors and how well they are also looking at
- 5 maintaining the, I guess the agreement or how well
- 6 they're monitoring CoreCivic and their adherence to the
- 7 contract.
- 8 Q. Why is that important?
- 9 A. Accountability and to ensure that the
- 10 contracts are being followed.
- 11 Q. And do you know why those contracts have
- 12 certain standards?
- 13 A. I quess it's part of a contract to ensure
- 14 that -- yeah, standards that the policies and procedures
- 15 for the department of corrections are followed and that
- 16 a certain standard of operations is adhered to in that.
- 17 Q. And is that for the safety of the prisoners?
- 18 A. And I would believe both -- yeah, the safety
- 19 of the prisoners, and the correctional officers, and
- 20 staff that are operating the prisons.
- 21 Q. What about financial accountability?
- 22 A. That's also, I guess part of the contract is
- 23 also, yeah.
- Q. And ultimately, the prisons in the State of
- 25 Tennessee, whether they're contracted through an

- 1 independent private facility or, you know, being run by
- 2 TDOC, I mean, that's taxpayer money that is being spent
- 3 on those facilities; is that right?
- 4 A. Correct.
- 5 Q. And so is one of the jobs of the department
- of the comptroller to ensure that the tax dollars are
- 7 being spent appropriately in accordance with the
- 8 contracts?
- 9 A. In a broad sense.
- 10 Q. Okay. And you said you have been with the
- 11 comptroller's office for about 15 years; is that right?
- 12 A. Correct.
- 13 Q. Have you been in the process of auditing TDOC
- 14 during the entirety of those 15 years?
- 15 A. No, ma'am.
- 16 Q. When did you start participating in audits of
- 17 TDOC?
- 18 A. 2017.
- 19 Q. And what types of audits did you do prior to
- 20 that?
- 21 A. Numerous performance audits.
- 22 Q. And different departments within the state?
- A. Correct.
- Q. And what types of things do you look at when
- 25 you're doing an audit of TDOC?

- 1 A. It varies. Performance audit, we basically
- 2 look at, during our planning phase, and determine areas
- 3 of risk. And we set objectives based on planning and
- 4 research that we do at the time of the audit. It can
- 5 change from audit to audit. So we will do whatever we
- 6 identify as an objective or a risk area, then that's
- 7 what we finally settle down and choose to do in the
- 8 detailed part of our audit. So it's not a standardized
- 9 form.
- 10 Q. Could you just go through a little bit of
- 11 what the methodology is for me?
- 12 A. Yes. When we start a performance audit, we
- 13 basically have a planning phase and a research phase.
- 14 It's when we come into the agency -- or we actually
- don't go to the agency at that point, but we research
- 16 all of the policies and procedures, statutes, contracts.
- 17 We review basically any history or any background
- 18 information that we can collect on the agency that is
- 19 available at that time and is current at that time.
- We also interview key management of the
- 21 department. And we try to identify areas of potential
- 22 risks. And what we mean risks in this area is related
- 23 to performance or anything that might hinder the
- 24 department from being able to meet its mission.
- Q. And then how does the process work after

- 1 you've done that?
- A. After we've done that, we identify several
- 3 areas. We discuss with our management team which areas
- 4 will be beneficial or reasonable for us to look at, and
- 5 what is important to the general assembly at that time,
- 6 the questions that might be most helpful for them in our
- 7 review. And we have to narrow our objectives to what we
- 8 can accomplish in the time that we're allotted for the
- 9 audit. So those factors all come into, I guess setting
- 10 what the audit objectives will be.
- 11 Q. And then who ultimately makes the decision on
- 12 what the audit objectives are?
- 13 A. It's signed off by the comptroller.
- Q. And then once those objectives are set, then
- 15 what happens?
- 16 A. We notify the department in an engagement
- 17 letter what our objectives will be. And we begin the
- 18 detailed phase of the audit.
- 19 Q. And what is the detailed phase of the audit?
- 20 A. Basically, that's where we focus on the
- 21 objectives. We do test work -- we develop test work.
- 22 We gather data to perform test work. And then we also
- 23 ultimately draw conclusions based on our test work.
- Q. And then what do you do after that?
- 25 A. After we come to our conclusions, we discuss

- 1 with management what those conclusions are and if
- 2 there's any changes that need to be made. After that,
- 3 we enter the report writing phase or the draft phase and
- 4 we begin drafting our report.
- 5 Q. And then what happens at that point?
- A. We will draft the report, which is writing
- 7 our findings and conclusions and documenting our
- 8 evidence. And once we have a draft, it's an editing
- 9 process between staff auditors, in-charges, managers,
- 10 all of the way up through the comptroller. Once we have
- 11 a draft that is approved by the comptroller, we send
- 12 that draft to the department for their review. And
- 13 they're allowed to provide management comments. We also
- 14 meet with the department to go over any questions or
- 15 concerns that they have at that time.
- 16 Q. And at that point when the department were to
- 17 give you their management comments, do you ever change
- 18 the findings of the report based on those, or you issue
- 19 the report, they do their comments, and then that's --
- 20 you know, you can do a response and that's the final?
- 21 A. Well, in some circumstances, we do make
- 22 adjustments to the findings. It depends on evidence or
- 23 any support or documentation that the department can
- 24 provide to support their reasoning for making changes.
- 25 We make an evaluation of that. In some cases, we make

- 1 some adjustments to findings before we finalize it.
- 2 Q. Do you know if you made any of those
- 3 adjustments in the November 2017 audit?
- A. As I said before, I do not recall any
- 5 substantial changes.
- 6 Q. Is that process that you just described, is
- 7 it generally the same for all of the audits that you do?
- 8 A. It's the same for all of the audits.
- 9 Q. So I am now going to try to show you Exhibit
- 10 4. Do you see the January 2020 performance audit review
- 11 for the department of correction on your screen?
- 12 A. I do.
- 13 Q. Do you recognize that to be the 2020 audit of
- 14 the TDOC performed by your department?
- 15 A. I do.
- 16 MS. HERZFELD: We will mark that as Exhibit
- 17 4.
- 18 (Exhibit 4 was marked.)
- 19 BY MS. HERZFELD:
- Q. Is this your name here, Vincent Finamore?
- 21 A. That is.
- 22 Q. You were also an in-charge auditor for this
- 23 audit?
- 24 A. I was.
- Q. And did you review this January 2020

- 1 performance audit review of the department of correction
- 2 before your testimony today?
- 3 A. I did.
- Q. And do you stand by it?
- 5 A. I do.
- 6 Q. And is there anything in there that the
- 7 department would now like to change positions on?
- 8 A. No, not at this time.
- 9 Q. Do you know if there were any substantial
- 10 changes to the conclusions in this audit based on new
- information or responses from the department?
- 12 A. I believe there were several adjustments
- 13 made. But I, at this time, can't recall all of them.
- 14 Q. Which ones can you recall?
- 15 A. I think there was some wording on some of the
- 16 supervision aspects. There were some general wording on
- 17 several of the conclusions.
- 18 Q. What about the substance of the conclusions,
- 19 were there any changes to that, the findings?
- 20 A. I don't believe there was a major substance
- 21 -- substantive changes, no.
- Q. Was there anything unusual or different from
- 23 the ordinary about how it is that the comptroller's
- 24 office performed this particular audit?
- A. No, ma'am.

- 1 Q. And is there anything that stands out in your
- 2 mind as unusual about this audit in any way?
- A. No, ma'am.
- Q. Do you feel that the audit was fair?
- 5 A. I do.
- 6 Q. What is your knowledge of any actions taken
- 7 by CoreCivic or Trousdale in response to the findings of
- 8 the two audits we've looked at today?
- 9 A. Let's see. I know the department made some
- 10 changes. After the first audit, they added an extra
- 11 contract monitor to each of their facilities to help
- 12 with the compliance issues.
- Q. Do you know if an extra contract monitor was
- 14 added at the Trousdale facility?
- 15 A. There was, uh-huh.
- 16 Q. There were how many before and how many
- 17 after?
- 18 A. During our 2017 audit, there was one contract
- 19 monitor. And during the 2020 audit, there were two
- 20 contract monitors on site.
- Q. What other changes do you know that were
- 22 made?
- 23 A. I believe they -- well, we noted that they
- 24 properly documented their staffing compared to the
- 25 previous audit. And our review of the staffing rosters

- 1 showed that they had critical posts manned.
- Q. But those things are reflected in the report;
- 3 is that right?
- A. Those are reflected in the report, correct.
- 5 Q. So other than things that are reflected in
- 6 the report, do you know anything other than that that
- 7 was done, things that happened subsequently or that were
- 8 not included in the report?
- 9 A. No, ma'am.
- 10 MS. POLLY: Object to the form.
- 11 BY MS. HERZFELD:
- 12 Q. I just want to make sure I understand. So to
- 13 your understanding of the knowledge of the comptroller's
- 14 office, the different changes or any changes that were
- 15 made by CoreCivic regarding Trousdale, or the department
- 16 regarding Trousdale, those changes are all reflected in
- 17 the report?
- 18 MR. AUMANN: Objection to form.
- 19 BY MS. HERZFELD:
- 20 Q. You can answer it, sir.
- 21 A. What's in the report are the observations
- 22 that we made at the time. And the focus was looking at
- 23 changes from the prior audit and have they addressed the
- 24 findings from that audit. So I cannot say that every
- 25 change that CoreCivic has made between the two time

- 1 periods is in the report, no. But the changes that
- 2 offset the prior findings are reflected in the report,
- 3 as to why they are still a finding or why they are no
- 4 longer a finding.
- 5 BY MS. HERZFELD:
- 6 Q. But other than the information that is
- 7 discussed in the report, do you have any knowledge about
- 8 any other changes that were made by Trousdale or
- 9 CoreCivic as you sit here today?
- 10 A. Not that I can recall, no.
- 11 Q. I think we had spoken just a few minutes ago
- 12 about different changes that TDOC had made in response
- 13 to the report. So you said they added another contract
- 14 monitor, for example, that was one of the changes?
- 15 A. Uh-huh.
- 16 Q. What about any other changes in regard to
- 17 oversight of CoreCivic?
- 18 A. I believe they required -- started requiring
- 19 CoreCivic to send in the daily shift rosters to the
- 20 department or the chief of operations to review -- or
- 21 the -- the person over the prisons. I think it's chief
- 22 of operations. I can't remember exactly.
- Q. What other changes, if any?
- 24 A. I'm sure there are several. I can't recall
- 25 most of them. But that is one that stands out to me.

- 1 Q. If you think of the others while we're
- 2 sitting here, you can just interrupt me and tell me, if
- 3 you don't mind.
- 4 A. Uh-huh.
- 5 Q. Is that a yes, sir?
- A. Yes.
- 7 Q. Perfect. What about any changes to the way
- 8 that TDOC has CoreCivic report inmate deaths, were there
- 9 any changes to that, to your knowledge?
- 10 A. Can you restate that, please?
- 11 Q. Sure. What about any changes -- do you know
- 12 of any changes to how TDOC would require CoreCivic to
- 13 report inmate deaths?
- 14 A. Well, at that time, we had not looked at that
- in the first audit. So when we did the second audit, we
- 16 would not be aware of any changes that they made.
- 17 Q. What about after the second audit?
- 18 A. After the second audit, that would be in
- 19 their post audit follow-up. At this time, we've not
- 20 conducted a follow-up audit, so I would not be entirely
- 21 aware of their changes.
- Q. Tell me about the post audit follow-up
- 23 process. How does that work?
- 24 A. Basically, after we finish an audit of the
- 25 department, they have 30 days to send the correction --

- 1 well, 30 days from the time that we release our report,
- 2 the department is to send in a corrective action plan.
- 3 And then after six months, they are to send basically a
- 4 progress memo to the comptroller indicating actions that
- 5 they are taking in executing that corrective action
- 6 plan.
- 7 Q. And you're looking at your notes when you are
- 8 telling me that. Is that one of the things you made
- 9 notes about?
- 10 A. Yes.
- 11 Q. And what do your notes say? I can't see
- 12 them. If I was sitting across from you, I would just
- 13 ask you to show me.
- 14 A. It's the statute, 8-4-109.
- 15 Q. Okay. And you already have done that
- 16 process, the TDOC post, the 2020 report?
- 17 A. Yes. They, from -- yes, they did turn in the
- 18 plan of -- their action plan and their progress reports.
- 19 O. Has someone reviewed that?
- 20 A. Somebody in the comptroller's office would
- 21 have reviewed that, yes.
- 22 Q. Have there been any additional findings, or
- 23 was it satisfactory? What happened with that? Has
- 24 there been a conclusion yet?
- 25 A. That's just a follow-up by the department

- 1 saying what they are doing. We have not audited the
- 2 department since the report. So we have not gone in to
- 3 assess or make any judgments on their progress.
- 4 Q. And so when that follow-up report is sent,
- 5 what, if anything, is done with it?
- A. It's filed and will be reviewed the next time
- 7 we do an audit.
- 8 Q. But in the meantime, if it says something,
- 9 there is no one verifying that or doing another
- 10 investigation?
- 11 A. Not this time, no.
- MS. POLLY: Object to the form.
- 13 BY MS. HERZFELD:
- 14 Q. How often does is the department audited?
- 15 A. The department is audited depending on the
- 16 sunset dates set by the general assembly.
- Q. Do you know if there is another audit
- 18 scheduled for TDOC?
- 19 A. There is another audit scheduled. Well, the
- 20 audit will be scheduled shortly, but their sunset date
- 21 is in '24.
- 22 Q. So there will be another audit done before
- 23 2024?
- A. Correct. Before June 30th, 2024. That's the
- 25 sunset date.

- 1 Q. Does the comptroller's office have any
- 2 current investigations or are you looking at TDOC in any
- 3 way for any purpose?
- 4 A. Not that I am aware of at the moment.
- 5 Q. Just going back, do you know -- other than
- 6 what is contained in the 2020 report, do you know of any
- 7 other changes that TDOC or CoreCivic had made in
- 8 response to that 2020 report?
- 9 A. (Shaking head.)
- 10 Q. Is that a no?
- 11 A. I'm sorry. I am not aware of any at this
- 12 point. And just, yeah, we won't know until we go back
- 13 and look in the next audit.
- 14 Q. Is that the same for the conditions at
- 15 Trousdale, all of the information that the department
- 16 knows about the conditions at Trousdale are contained
- 17 within that 2020 report?
- 18 MR. AUMANN: Object to form.
- MS. POLLY: Object to the form.
- 20 BY MS. HERZFELD:
- 21 Q. You can answer it.
- 22 A. Again, what's in the report are the
- 23 significant issues that we audited on and were able to
- 24 conclude on.
- Q. But you don't have any additional information

- 1 outside of what is contained in that report about
- 2 conditions at Trousdale?
- A. Not that we haven't shared with you or that's
- 4 in our working papers. Nothing significant that we have
- 5 not put in the report.
- 6 MS. POLLY: Object to the form on that.
- 7 BY MS. HERZFELD:
- 8 Q. And when the comptroller reports are issued,
- 9 who are they given to?
- 10 A. They are given to the general assembly. They
- 11 are given to the department. And I believe there's who
- 12 else the department wishes them to have a copy. It's
- 13 also released to the media and made available on our
- 14 website, so it's available to the public.
- 15 Q. And does it go to any other governmental
- 16 agencies?
- 17 A. I think it goes to -- well, definitely
- 18 general assemblies, but it wouldn't go to any other
- 19 agency unless it was, you know, requested to for some
- 20 reason.
- 21 Q. And the 2020 report, do you know if that went
- 22 to anyone other than TDOC, obviously the public, your
- 23 website, and the legislature?
- 24 A. I don't have a list in front of me of all
- 25 that it went to.

	ORE, VINCENT on	S STATE OF TENNESSEE 06/17/2021	Page 36
1	Q.	Which who does it go to at the	Page 36
2	legislatur	re?	
3	A.	The governmental operations committee.	
4	Q.	And is it sent to the chair?	
5	A.	Yes, it would go to the chair.	
6	Q.	And do you know if there were any hear:	ings on
7	this audit	.?	
8	A.	There was.	
9	Q.	And when were those hearings?	
10	A.	That hearing was, I believe January 27th	ch,
11	2020.		
12	Q.	And was your department given any direct	ction
13	from membe	ers of the legislature at that hearing of	f
14	things to	do?	
15	A.	No.	
16	Q.	Did you have any follow-up that the	
17	department	was required to do as a result of that	
18	hearing?		
19		MR. AUMANN: Objection to form. And Tr	ricia,
20	just if I	could ask, when you're saying department	t, if

saying department, I mean comptroller.

21

22

23

24

you could just clarify do you mean department of

corrections or are you talking comptroller's office?

MS. HERZFELD: I meant comptroller. When I'm

- 1 THE WITNESS: No, we were not given any
- 2 further directions from the legislature.
- 3 BY MS. HERZFELD:
- 4 Q. And as a result of that hearing, did the
- 5 department, the comptroller's department -- I will try
- 6 to be super clear on that, Tom. Did the comptroller's
- 7 department make any changes to the report or findings?
- 8 A. No.
- 9 Q. Were those already finalized before the
- 10 hearing?
- 11 A. Yes.
- 12 Q. When you have investigators -- well, let me
- 13 back up. As a part of your audit process, do you have
- 14 investigators go to the facility itself?
- 15 A. Not our investigators, no. We have auditors.
- 16 Q. Auditors, okay, very good. I'll make sure I
- 17 try to use your terminology correctly. And so did you
- 18 have auditors go to Trousdale as part of the audit?
- 19 A. We did.
- Q. How many went?
- 21 A. I believe the entire audit staff. The in-
- 22 charges and the staff auditors went to Trousdale -- went
- 23 to each of the facilities in the audit.
- Q. And Trousdale is obviously the one I'm most
- 25 specifically interested in. Did you personally go?

- 1 A. I did.
- Q. And when you all go and do those personal
- 3 observations and interviews, do people take notes?
- A. Yes.
- 5 MS. POLLY: Object to the form.
- 6 BY MS. HERZFELD:
- 7 Q. Where are those notes kept?
- 8 A. They are our working papers.
- 9 Q. Is it your policy that when people do
- 10 interviews they should keep notes?
- 11 A. Yes.
- 12 Q. Do you know of any notes that would not be
- 13 contained in the working papers?
- 14 A. Anything that is important to the audit are
- in the working papers.
- 16 Q. And did the department receive any input from
- 17 any outside organizations in forming the opinions in the
- 18 audit?
- 19 A. No.
- 20 Q. In talking about the 2020 audit as it has to
- 21 do with Trousdale, other than the information that shows
- 22 up in the audit itself, did the department have any
- 23 conversations with anyone at Trousdale about the
- 24 findings?
- 25 A. No, I don't believe we did.

- 1 Q. What about -- and when I say department, I
- 2 mean the comptroller's department. What about any
- 3 conversations that the comptroller's department had with
- 4 anyone at CoreCivic about the findings with Trousdale,
- 5 were there any conversations post the 2020 audit?
- 6 A. In the 2020 audit, there was not any finding
- 7 directly related just to Trousdale. We spoke with the
- 8 department about the findings that we had in the report
- 9 and their oversight of their prisons that we had
- 10 audited.
- 11 Q. And so when you say the department, you mean
- 12 --
- 13 A. Department of corrections.
- 14 Q. Department of corrections, okay. So I just
- 15 want to make sure, now that Tom's pointed this out, that
- 16 we have that correct. I guess what I'm trying to figure
- 17 out is, has there ever been a direct line of
- 18 communication between the comptroller's department and
- 19 someone at CoreCivic where they pick up the phone and
- 20 say, hey, you know, you've done this or you've done that
- 21 and we're going to kind of -- going to chat offline?
- 22 A. Well, as part of our audit process, while
- 23 we're at the facility, we are in contact with the
- 24 warden. And sometimes CoreCivic has sent part of their
- 25 upper management team, but they're not there all of the

- 1 time that we're there. At the end of the week, we did
- 2 have a meeting. We debriefed the warden and his staff
- 3 on any observations or concerns that we found, issues.
- At that time, we don't have findings. We
- 5 don't have anything labeled or decided upon, if it's a
- 6 finding and observation or so. At that time, we just
- 7 make them aware of any issues. And you know, as we go
- 8 through our audit process, we do work with the staff,
- 9 CoreCivic staff if it's a CoreCivic facility, state
- 10 staff if it's a state facility. They are aware of what
- 11 we're looking at and any problems that we find. And
- 12 sometimes, you know, they work on trying to fix them.
- 13 Q. And all of that would be reflected in the
- 14 report?
- 15 A. Most of it would be, I believe, yeah, or our
- 16 working papers.
- Q. Was there anyone from upper management
- 18 involved with -- when you all were looking at Trousdale?
- 19 A. I remember the warden being there.
- 20 Obviously, the contract monitor. I don't remember -- I
- 21 just don't remember if somebody from -- they might have
- 22 come the first day, upper management person from
- 23 CoreCivic may have been there. I don't recall if they
- 24 were there or not.
- Q. Would that be documented someplace, who was

present?

1

- 2 A. It may be if our -- if we had documented our
- 3 opening meeting with -- we have an opening meeting when
- 4 we attend the facility when we first arrive, just to go
- 5 over with staff, you know, why we're there and the
- 6 process that we're going to be following and answer any
- 7 questions they have concerning the audit and the audit
- 8 process.
- 9 Q. And when you say someone from upper
- 10 management, does that mean from CoreCivic corporate,
- 11 like the Nashville office?
- 12 A. Right, correct.
- Q. Do you know if anyone has ever had any
- 14 conversations from your department, from the
- 15 comptroller's office, with Warden Washburn about the
- 16 conditions at Trousdale?
- MS. POLLY: Object to the form.
- 18 THE WITNESS: During our audit process, yes
- 19 we interacted with Warden Washburn.
- 20 BY MS. HERZFELD:
- 21 Q. And how was his reaction to your inquiries?
- 22 A. The warden was very helpful during our audit.
- 23 He was cooperative. He provided us any information that
- 24 we required. He encouraged his staff to provide the
- 25 files or, you know, access to the facility, or anything

- 1 that we needed to complete our audit.
- Q. What about after, did anybody from the
- 3 comptroller's office have any conversations with Warden
- 4 Washburn after the audit was issued?
- 5 A. No.
- 6 Q. I pulled some different documents from I
- 7 think what you classified as your working papers. I was
- 8 hoping we could go through and you could tell me if they
- 9 are part of your working papers and kind of what they
- 10 are. If you'll just bear with me, I will put them on
- 11 the screen. And I will slowly go -- I can try to give
- 12 you control, we'll see, but I'll try to kind of slowly
- 13 go through them and show you what they are. But if you
- 14 have any questions, just let me know, okay?
- 15 A. Okay.
- MS. HERZFELD: We are going to mark this as
- 17 Exhibit 5.
- 18 (Exhibit 5 was marked.)
- 19 MR. AUMANN: Tricia, I was just going to ask,
- 20 when you put these up here, could you give us the Bates
- 21 numbers with them, just so we can pull up our own
- 22 copies?
- MS. HERZFELD: Yeah. I think this one is
- 24 probably going to be a little bit more difficult because
- 25 we put it together as a collective exhibit.

- 1 BY MS. HERZFELD:
- 2 Q. Sir, do you see a document on the screen in
- 3 front of you?
- 4 A. I do.
- 5 Q. In the top left-hand corner, does it say TDOC
- 6 016160?
- 7 A. It does.
- 8 MS. POLLY: Tricia, before you get into that,
- 9 can you either e-mail that around to us or share it in
- 10 the chat so that we can open it ourselves?
- MS. HERZFELD: If I can figure out how to do
- 12 that, I am happy to do it.
- MS. POLLY: Just because there are so many
- 14 documents, when I try to -- Tom's request was a great
- one. It sounds like it doesn't really work here because
- 16 it's different numbers. But usually, whenever I try to
- 17 pull it up, it kind of locks my computer because they're
- 18 such a big batch of documents.
- MS. HERZFELD: Yeah, it was one big giant
- 20 PDF. I will try to share it in the chat if I can figure
- 21 out how to do that.
- MS. POLLY: And I'm happy, Tricia, for you to
- 23 also just e-mail it around to all of us.
- MS. HERZFELD: It's pretty large, but I can
- 25 certainly try. Let's see if that works.

24

25

of the audit.

Page 44 1 (Technical discussion.) 2 BY MS. HERZFELD: 3 Sir, do see the document in front of you that 0. 4 says TDOC 016160? 5 Α. I do. 6 Q. And this appears to be a two-page document. 7 Α. Uh-huh. Dated January 31st, 2019. And the title is 8 Q. 9 privately operated facility notification of 10 noncompliance. Do you know what this document is? 11 Α. It's a noncompliance report. 12 What is a noncompliance report? Q. 13 It's the -- when contract monitors are aware Α. 14 of an act of noncompliance, they issue a memo, such as 15 this report, documenting the noncompliant item. And 16 then they make the warden or the assistant warden aware 17 of it. And an action plan is developed to correct the 18 infraction or the noncompliance. Basically, it's part 19 of the contract monitor's review of compliance items on 20 a checklist that they do. 21 Do you receive all of the noncompliance **Q**. 22 reports about a facility when you're doing an audit? 23 When we do an audit, we ask for the Α.

noncompliance reports for the time period under review

- 1 Q. Why do you ask for those?
- 2 A. So that we can have communications on what
- 3 problems the contract monitors are noting.
- 4 Q. Do you use those in evaluating your
- 5 recommendations for your audit?
- A. We use those as part of the support for the
- 7 audit, yes.
- 8 Q. Would all of those be documented within the
- 9 audit?
- 10 A. Only if it was pertaining to one of our
- 11 findings, observations, or conclusions.
- 12 Q. So looking at this one, for example, the
- 13 location here is the Trousdale Turner Correctional
- 14 Center; is that correct?
- 15 A. It is.
- Q. And here it's sent to Brandon Bellar, who is
- 17 the Trousdale County attorney. Is your understanding
- 18 that Trousdale County has some role within the contract
- 19 with the facility?
- 20 A. Yes. In actuality, the facility is
- 21 contracted with the county of Trousdale, and the county
- 22 of Trousdale contracts with the state.
- Q. And then you're auditing the state, and part
- 24 of that is the compliance of the facility with the
- 25 various contracts; is that right?

- 1 Α. Correct.
- 2 Q. And this one is dated January 31st, 2019.
- 3 says that the audit scope here is count procedures,
- 4 10/1/18 through 12/31/18. Did I read that correctly?
- 5 Α. Correct.
- And then it says: The TDOC employees making 6 Q.
- 7 observations, CMO Christopher Brun. Do you know what
- 8 CMO stands for?
- 9 That's the contract monitor for the Α.
- 10 department located at Trousdale.
- 11 So here they're talking about -- well, why Q.
- 12 don't you tell me what your understanding is of the
- 13 noncompliance here.
- 14 When they do a count of the inmates at that
- 15 time -- they have a morning count, they have an evening
- 16 lockdown count. The count numbers totals are supposed
- 17 to be entered in TOMIS. And TOMIS is their inmate
- 18 management system software for the department of
- 19 correction.
- 20 And in this noncompliance issue, what Q.
- information is being shared? 21
- 22 The total number of the count. The results Α.
- 23 of the count, I quess.
- 24 Q. And in this case, it was noncompliant?
- 25 It was not -- yeah. Apparently, it was not Α.

- 1 entered in the TOMIS.
- 2 Q. Could that create a safety issue?
- 3 MS. POLLY: Object to form.
- 4 MR. AUMANN: Objection to form.
- 5 THE WITNESS: Not outright, no. I don't
- 6 believe so.
- 7 BY MS. HERZFELD:
- 8 Q. Could that be caused by a lack of staffing?
- 9 MS. POLLY: Object to the form.
- 10 THE WITNESS: That's hard to say. I mean,
- 11 people doing the count get the count and somebody -- you
- 12 know, there's a person on staff that would enter the
- 13 count into TOMIS. It's not clear from this why the
- 14 count wasn't entered.
- 15 BY MS. HERZFELD:
- 16 Q. Is that something that your department would
- 17 look at, meaning the comptroller's department, when
- 18 you're doing an audit?
- 19 A. It would be something that we would note, but
- 20 again, based on the significance of things that we look
- 21 at, this would not be concerned as a major thing. A
- 22 broader issue of just entering information into TOMIS,
- 23 and I think we touched on some of that in the audit.
- Q. And in here you have the response of the
- 25 contractor, Warden Washburn; is that right?

- 1 A. Correct.
- 2 Q. And he says that the chief of security will
- 3 extensively discuss this deficiency and expectations for
- 4 compliance with the responsible staff member. Do you
- 5 know if that was fixed?
- A. Again, we did not look at this specifically
- 7 and verify this, no.
- 8 Q. So when those things happen, is it not within
- 9 the scope of the audit mandate of the department to
- 10 ensure that the various fixes that have been said that
- 11 they're going for those noncompliance reports had
- 12 actually happened?
- 13 A. That would be more at a macro level. We're
- 14 looking more -- how should I put this? Our objective at
- 15 that time was not to look specifically at the count
- 16 totals. We were looking more about, I guess at the
- 17 communication between the contract monitor and
- 18 Trousdale. We did not specifically check this item, no.
- 19 We had broader objectives.
- 20 Q. And I guess my broader question is -- and I
- 21 know that you all have very broad mandates on what it is
- 22 that you're supposed to look at. I'm trying to figure
- 23 out in the process of the world of monitoring these
- 24 contracts, does anybody look behind an assurance that is
- 25 given from the facility, like for example, has been done

- 1 here to ensure that that is actually happening?
- 2 A. The contract monitor should. And then the
- 3 department has a compliance group themselves that do
- 4 internal audits or internal reviews of the facilities.
- 5 And they would make note also.
- Q. When you're saying department, you mean TDOC?
- 7 A. Correct, department of correction.
- 8 Q. So that would not be within the scope of what
- 9 is done at the comptroller's office?
- 10 A. It could be. Just for this particular audit,
- 11 it wasn't something we focused on in this area.
- 12 Q. I will move to the next one, which is marked
- 13 TDOC 016162.
- 14 A. Correct.
- 15 Q. This is another notification of noncompliance
- 16 dated January 31st, 2019, about drug testing.
- 17 Noncompliance for drug testing. It looks like people
- 18 were not being retested for their drug tests. Was that
- 19 something that was within the scope of the audit
- 20 performed by the comptroller's office?
- 21 A. I do believe we included that in the report.
- 22 At least the part that they were not documenting or not
- 23 conducting the drug tests, the random drug tests.
- Q. And then it says here that Warden Washburn
- 25 was advised of the noncompliance by the contract

- 1 monitor. And then if you go with me to the next page,
- 2 on TDOC 016163, it talks about the response of the
- 3 contractor or corrective action taken; is that right?
- 4 A. Uh-huh.
- 5 MS. POLLY: Object to the form.
- 6 BY MS. HERZFELD:
- 7 Q. And then reading here, you have the response
- 8 of Warden Washburn and how he dealt with that issue; is
- 9 that correct.
- 10 A. Uh-huh.
- 11 Q. Is that a yes?
- 12 A. Yes.
- 13 Q. And going back to ensure that what he says
- 14 they had changed or they were going to do in the future,
- 15 that would be the responsibility of the contract monitor
- 16 to ensure that's correct and --
- 17 A. Yes.
- 18 Q. -- not the comptroller's office? Do I
- 19 understand you correctly?
- 20 A. Ultimately --
- 21 MS. POLLY: Object to the form.
- 22 THE WITNESS: -- it's the responsibility of
- 23 the contract monitor to ensure that that is taking
- 24 place, yes.
- 25 BY MS. HERZFELD:

- 1 Q. And would this have been one of the
- 2 notifications of noncompliance that your office, the
- 3 comptroller's office, would have looked at in
- 4 formulating your reports?
- 5 A. I can't speak to exactly if we looked at that
- 6 exact one, but I believe it would have been in a list of
- 7 other noncompliances, possibly.
- 8 Q. And you know that we've received a bunch of
- 9 documents from your office --
- 10 A. Correct.
- 11 Q. -- in preparation for today?
- 12 A. Uh-huh.
- Q. Were you involved at all in the preparation
- 14 of providing those documents to us?
- 15 A. I was, yes.
- 16 Q. And those documents, do you know them all to
- 17 be your working papers, or were there any that were not?
- 18 A. I believe we included some information that
- 19 wasn't in the working papers, but in addition to the
- 20 working papers.
- 21 Q. Do you know what information was in addition
- 22 to the working papers?
- A. I could not comment on all of that. It was a
- 24 lot of information that we sent you.
- 25 Q. Sure.

- 1 MS. HERZFELD: Tom, I think this would go a
- 2 whole lot easier for me if we kind of knew what section
- 3 of the documents that were produced were the working
- 4 papers versus the stuff that wasn't. Is there a way you
- 5 can deconstruct that?
- 6 MR. AUMANN: I'm not entirely sure. You
- 7 know, I sent on everything that we received from the
- 8 comptroller's office. So that might be hard to do. I
- 9 mean, I could try looking on a break, but as I sit here
- 10 right now, I don't know that I would be able to, other
- 11 than tell you I sent everything on to you.
- MS. HERZFELD: Let's just go off the record
- 13 for a second.
- 14 (Off-the-record discussion.)
- MS. HERZFELD: Okay, we're back on the record
- 16 after a semi-quick discussion and break. It appears
- 17 that we've agreed that Mr. Aumann and Ms. Maxwell are
- 18 going to identify, the best they can, what the Bates
- 19 range is for what would be -- what you consider to be
- 20 your working papers file. Does everybody agree that
- 21 that's the agreement?
- MR. AUMANN: Yes.
- MS. POLLY: Yes.
- 24 BY MS. HERZFELD:
- 25 Q. So I will just ask you generally then, sir,

- 1 do you know if these noncompliance reports are typically
- 2 included within the working paper files that would be
- 3 reviewed for the preparation of the audits?
- A. They would be reviewed as part of our
- 5 planning work. They would be in our working papers if
- 6 it supports our conclusions or any of the test work that
- 7 we did at the facility or during the audit. We don't
- 8 put everything we look at into the working papers,
- 9 because sometimes it would just be way too many files.
- 10 But we put into the working papers what we use to
- 11 support conclusions that we've drawn, the test work that
- 12 we've done, and basically, you know, which is important
- 13 to the work that we're doing.
- Q. And so I think with that agreement from your
- 15 counsel, I can dispense with the rest of my questions,
- 16 then, about this Exhibit 5.
- MS. HERZFELD: We've been going an hour. Do
- 18 you all want to take a five-minute break?
- 19 THE WITNESS: Sure.
- MS. POLLY: Fine by me.
- 21 (Recess observed.)
- 22 BY MS. HERZFELD:
- 23 Q. I am going to show you -- again, if I can
- 24 figure it out. Do you see something that is marked TDOC
- 25 012403 on your screen?

- 1 A. Uh-huh.
- Q. I will let you take a look at that for one
- 3 second while I figure out how to share it with the
- 4 others.
- 5 MS. HERZFELD: We'll mark this as Exhibit 6.
- 6 (Exhibit 6 was marked.)
- 7 BY MS. HERZFELD:
- 8 Q. Okay, sir, do you recognize this e-mail?
- 9 A. I do.
- 10 Q. And it is from Christopher Brun and to
- 11 Vincent Finamore. Is that you?
- 12 A. It is.
- 13 Q. Is this an e-mail that would have been kept
- 14 in the ordinary course of your business at the
- 15 comptroller's office?
- 16 A. Yes.
- 17 Q. I will give you an opportunity to read
- 18 through this e-mail. I am going to try to figure out
- 19 how to let you control the screen.
- 20 A. I've downloaded it.
- 21 Q. Oh, you have? Great. Do you mind taking a
- 22 look at it for me. I'll give you a minute to review.
- A. Okay. Okay.
- Q. Do you recall what was happening in this
- 25 e-mail?

- 1 A. Yes. I was e-mailing him part of the 2017
- 2 audit. And we were drafting -- we were in the report
- 3 writing part of -- phase of it. We were -- I was
- 4 sending him an e-mail just to verify that the instances
- 5 of noncompliance with the post, that he agreed that they
- 6 were correct. Basically, I'm e-mailing him, showing him
- 7 the evidence that I have and giving him an opportunity
- 8 to, if they -- if one of the shifts were filled, you
- 9 know, to correct me where I was wrong.
- 10 And he basically, you know, was saying that
- 11 those -- what I was saying were the critical posts, he
- 12 believed were critical posts, and that he addressed the
- 13 -- his last monitoring noncompliance report. He's
- 14 saying that he addressed this issue with CoreCivic and
- 15 that they're developing a plan of action. Basically,
- 16 this was just me communicating with him some of the
- 17 information that I had and that was -- would be going
- 18 into the findings.
- 19 Q. And ultimately, did that end up in the
- 20 findings?
- 21 A. It did.
- MS. HERZFELD: Now I'm going to move you over
- 23 to what we'll mark as Exhibit 7.
- 24 (Exhibit 7 was marked.)
- 25 BY MS. HERZFELD:

- 1 Q. Do you see the document TDOC 013292.
- 2 A. Uh-huh.
- 3 Q. I'm going to try to drop it in the chat as
- 4 well. Everyone should have it in the chat. Mr.
- 5 Finamore, if you will go ahead and take a look at it.
- 6 This e-mail is dated August 11th, 2017; is that correct?
- 7 A. Uh-huh.
- 8 Q. And the subject is Trousdale Turner request
- 9 for staffing pattern revision. Did I read that
- 10 correctly?
- 11 A. Yes.
- 12 Q. And it's from Christopher Brun, who's the
- 13 contract monitor, to you and Greg Spradley; is that
- 14 correct?
- 15 A. Correct.
- 16 Q. Who is Greg Spradley?
- 17 A. He was one of my staff auditors.
- 18 Q. If you'll go ahead and just take a second to
- 19 review this e-mail.
- 20 A. Uh-huh.
- Q. Have you had opportunity?
- 22 A. Yes.
- Q. Is this an e-mail that would have been kept
- 24 in the ordinary course of your business at the
- 25 comptroller's office?

- 1 Α. Yes, sir.
- 2 Q. Do you recall what this e-mail was about?
- 3 Chris Brun was sending us a copy of a Α.
- 4 recently approved staffing pattern. DC Woodall was the
- 5 chief of operations at the department of correction.
- is the one that was over -- you know, responsible for 6
- 7 the prison oversight. And basically, this is a staffing
- pattern that he has reviewed and signed off on and has 8
- 9 returned back to TTCC.
- 10 Each time Trousdale is going to make an
- 11 adjustment to their staffing pattern, they are to have
- 12 the approval of the department. So this is a recent
- 13 change and he was sending us the newly approved staffing
- 14 pattern.
- 15 MS. HERZFELD: And Tom, I don't think when
- 16 this was produced the PDF that was attached was produced
- 17 behind it. If I am wrong, somebody correct me, but I
- 18 think it was just the e-mail and not the PDF. So if it
- 19 has been produced, if somebody could help identify it
- 20 for me, where the Bates number is after the deposition,
- 21 I would be greatly appreciative.
- 22 MR. AUMANN: Okay, yes, so this is on 13292.
- 23 Yeah, we will look into that.
- 24 MS. HERZFELD: Great. Thanks so much.
- 25 THE WITNESS: Yeah, I believe we did send

- 1 that and it should be in the actual audit itself. It's
- 2 in the working papers.
- 3 MS. HERZFELD: Okay. Fantastic. We will now
- 4 move on.
- 5 (Exhibit 8 was marked.)
- 6 BY MS. HERZFELD:
- 7 Q. Okay, you should see in front of you now what
- 8 we'll mark as Exhibit 8, TDOC 013524. Do you see that
- 9 document?
- 10 A. I don't see the document. I see your file
- 11 manager there.
- 12 Q. Hold on one second for me. How about now,
- 13 TDOC 013524?
- A. Uh-huh.
- 15 Q. I'm back on a roll, lovely. And I will put
- 16 that in the chat for you all. This is Exhibit 8, TDOC
- 17 013524, a one-page document. And this says meeting with
- 18 Commissioner Parker, dated Thursday, November 8th, 2018.
- 19 Did I read that correctly?
- 20 A. Correct.
- Q. And it's from Debra Loveless to you; is that
- 22 correct?
- A. Correct.
- 24 Q. And is this an e-mail that would have been
- 25 kept in the ordinary course of business dealings at the

- 1 comptroller's office?
- 2 A. Yes.
- Q. In this e-mail, what is happening? Do you
- 4 recall it?
- 5 A. Yes, this was after the 2017 audit, after it
- 6 was released and after the hearing. This was a meeting
- 7 that Commissioner Parker requested to have with the
- 8 comptroller. And it was about -- the contracts were
- 9 being renegotiated with CoreCivic and there was some
- 10 question. They wanted some question -- or to hear what
- 11 the comptroller had to say about adjusting liquidated
- 12 damages within the contracts. The rate that the
- 13 liquidated damages were set. And it was, if I recall,
- 14 pretty steep for Trousdale, as well as Hardeman County.
- So that was -- Mr. Parker was requesting to
- 16 have that meeting with the comptroller. And the
- 17 comptroller asked me to attend also, and give him some
- 18 guidance on what was going on.
- 19 Q. Do you know what the result of that meeting
- 20 was?
- 21 A. Yes, ma'am. Basically, the comptroller told
- 22 him that it's not our place to say what or give advice
- 23 as to what should be in a contract. That the rates that
- 24 were in the contract are what the department agreed to.
- 25 If they -- you know, they would need to, I guess

- 1 negotiate with CoreCivic to come with different rates if
- 2 they wished to do that.
- We just ask that if you do make a change,
- 4 that you document what those changes are, and that we --
- 5 so that we can review them during the next audit or be
- 6 aware of the changes. It wasn't our place to give
- 7 advice on how the department should, you know, basically
- 8 set the rates in their contracts.
- 9 Q. When you say the department, you mean TDOC?
- 10 A. Correct.
- 11 Q. Was TDOC taking the position that the
- 12 contractual fines were too extreme for Trousdale and
- 13 Hardeman County, that it should be raised or lowered?
- MS. POLLY: Object to the form.
- THE WITNESS: They were just presenting
- 16 information that the fines would be rather steep.
- 17 BY MS. HERZFELD:
- 18 Q. And who was it that was presenting that
- 19 information at the meeting?
- 20 A. Wes Landers.
- 21 O. Who is Wes Landers?
- 22 A. He was the chief financial officer at the
- 23 time.
- Q. For which department?
- 25 A. Department of correction.

24

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Α.

Page 61 Was Commissioner Parker at that meeting? 1 Q. 2 Α. Commissioner Parker was at the meeting, yes. 3 Did Commissioner Parker take a position on Q. 4 the fines? 5 Α. He was -- you know, he was there with Wes And together, they were just explaining to us 6 Landers. 7 how steep the fines would be based on the rate, and that they had a concern that this would be very detrimental 8 9 to CoreCivic. And you know, keeping them as a 10 contractor could influence, you know, I guess the 11 relationship between them. 12 I am not sure I am phrasing that right, but 13 I'm just saying that he had a concern that it was a lot 14 of money. And in the course of business, that would be a concern to any company that would have fines, you 15 16 know, levied against them. And certainly, the 17 department being contracted to CoreCivic, you know, it's 18 in their interest to keep CoreCivic housing prisons and 19 with their contracts. So they just had a concern that 20 the rate they agreed to would be a lot -- amount to a 21 substantial amount of money. 22 And the fines, your understanding is, would Q. 23 be levied if there were violations of the contract?

Correct. This was part of the contract

called liquidated damages. And basically, under certain

- 1 violations, under certain circumstances, if they
- 2 occurred, they qualify for liquidated damages to be
- 3 assessed against CoreCivic.
- 4 (Exhibit 9 was marked.)
- 5 BY MS. HERZFELD:
- Q. I'm going to show you what I'm I've marked as
- 7 Exhibit 9. You should see it on your screen, TDOC
- 8 014907. Do you see it?
- 9 A. I do.
- 10 Q. I will put it in the chat. You can go ahead
- 11 and take a look at it. This is marked as Exhibit 9.
- 12 It's an e-mail dated Thursday, November 8th, 2018 re:
- 13 CoreCivic contracts from Betty Stanton to Vincent
- 14 Finamore. Did I read that correctly?
- 15 A. Yes.
- 16 Q. And you are Vincent Finamore; is that right?
- 17 A. I am.
- 18 Q. And Betty Stanton is whom?
- 19 A. Secretary for Comptroller Wilson at the time.
- 20 Q. Have you had an opportunity to review the
- 21 e-mail?
- 22 A. I have.
- Q. Do you recall what this e-mail was about?
- 24 A. Yeah, it was giving me a parking space. She
- 25 was saying for the meeting that she reserved a parking

- 1 space for me, because we were meeting in the
- 2 comptroller's office in the state capitol.
- 3 Q. And when you're talking about meeting, is
- 4 that the meeting we were just discussing, the meeting
- 5 between TDOC and the comptroller's office?
- A. Yes.
- 7 Q. And then if you'll switch to the second page,
- 8 which is marked TDOC 014908. It looks like you're being
- 9 forwarded an e-mail between Debbie Inglis, Justin
- 10 Wilson, and Dwight Tarwater. Do you see where I am?
- 11 A. Uh-huh, I think so. Tarwater, yes. I see
- 12 it, yes.
- 13 Q. And who is Mr. Tarwater?
- 14 A. I do not remember. He might have worked for
- 15 the governor's office. Maybe Stephanie might know. I
- 16 am not sure.
- 17 Q. Do you recall if Mr. Tarwater is a lawyer?
- 18 A. I do not recall.
- 19 Q. And Justin Wilson, who is that?
- 20 A. Former comptroller of the State of Tennessee.
- Q. Was he comptroller at the time that you were
- 22 having these conversations?
- A. He was.
- Q. And then Debbie Inglis, you said, was his
- 25 assistant?

- 1 A. No, Debbie Inglis is an attorney with the
- 2 department of correction.
- 3 Q. So this e-mail that's being forwarded says
- 4 from Debbie Inglis to Justin Wilson and Dwight Tarwater:
- 5 In preparation for upcoming meeting, I have attached the
- 6 contracts for the CoreCivic operated facilities. The
- 7 liquidated damages schedule is an attachment in each
- 8 contract. You will note that in the Trousdale contract,
- 9 the multiplier is \$250, while in the other contracts, it
- 10 is \$25. Did I read that correctly?
- 11 A. You did.
- 12 Q. And then Comptroller Wilson forwards that
- 13 e-mail to you on April 10th, 2018? Do you see where I
- 14 am?
- 15 A. I do.
- 16 Q. And then he says: I suppose they're going to
- 17 want us to reapprove any penalty they might assess.
- 18 Something we ain't about to do. Did I read that
- 19 correctly?
- 20 A. Correct.
- Q. Do you know what Mr. Wilson was referring to
- 22 in this e-mail?
- 23 A. Yes, he was, again, speculating on what the
- 24 department may be wanting to meet with us about and to
- 25 ask us. And he's just stating that that's -- we're not

- 1 about to give advice on what should be in a contract for
- 2 the department of corrections.
- Q. And that's consistent with your conversations
- 4 with the comptroller, Mr. Wilson?
- 5 A. Yes.
- Q. Very good. I am going to show you now what
- 7 we will mark as Exhibit 10. Do you see it in front of
- 8 you?
- 9 A. I do.
- 10 Q. It says TDOC 012355. Do you see it on your
- 11 screen?
- 12 A. I see it on the screen, correct.
- 13 (Exhibit 10 was marked.)
- 14 BY MS. HERZFELD:
- 15 Q. And I will also put it in the chat. And this
- 16 is a two-page document. It says staffing vacancies at
- 17 Trousdale Turner Correctional Center, reporting from
- 18 10/1/2018 to 10/31/2018, Attachment G. Did I read that
- 19 correctly?
- 20 A. I believe so, yes.
- Q. And have you ever seen a chart like this
- 22 before?
- 23 A. I have not seen this specific chart, no.
- Q. Do you recognize this chart? Is it a chart
- 25 that is usually kept anywhere, do you know?

- 1 A. It looks like this is a chart kept by the
- 2 department of correction.
- 3 Q. Have you seen any other charts that look like
- 4 this when you were doing your review of Trousdale?
- 5 A. We may have looked at -- I think we have some
- 6 of these in our current past audit. But I personally
- 7 didn't look at them myself. I believe I know what this
- 8 is.
- 9 Q. And what do you think that it is?
- 10 A. It's basically a list of levied liquidated
- 11 damages for the violations of the positions that were
- 12 not filled. There is a 45-day requirement that if a
- 13 correctional officer position is -- remains unstaffed
- 14 for over 45 days, then they are allowed to be assessed
- 15 for liquidated damages. And the liquidated damages
- 16 would be the assessment, I guess tally or total that the
- 17 department is calculating.
- 18 Q. Do you know if these are kept monthly or
- 19 quarterly?
- 20 A. I presume that the former financial officer
- 21 for the department of correction kept these, and I'm not
- 22 familiar with his process.
- 23 Q. Okay.
- 24 (Exhibit 11 was marked.)
- 25 BY MS. HERZFELD:

- 1 Q. I am going to show you what we've marked as
- 2 Exhibit 11, TDOC 015330. It's a two-page document. I
- 3 will also put it in the chat. Do you recognize this
- 4 document, sir?
- 5 A. I do.
- 6 Q. What do you recognize it to be?
- 7 A. My notes of the meeting.
- 8 Q. And it's dated Monday, November 26, 2018; is
- 9 that correct?
- 10 A. I believe so.
- 11 Q. And these are your notes?
- 12 A. Correct. Yeah, these are the typed-up
- 13 version of my notes.
- 14 Q. If you will take a minute just to review it.
- 15 Let me know when you're finished.
- 16 A. Oh, this is a different meeting. Okay, hold
- 17 on. Yeah, I believe this was a different meeting.
- 18 Q. Do you recall what that meeting was about?
- 19 A. As discussed, it was also a meeting about the
- 20 contract.
- 21 Q. And did you often attend meetings with the
- 22 commissioner of the department of corrections?
- 23 A. Only when asked to by the -- you know, in
- 24 this case, we were asked to attend by the comptroller.
- 25 Q. How many meetings did you have -- did you

- attend with the commissioner of TDOC about Trousdale? 1
- 2 Α. These are the only two meetings.
- 3 0. And you took these two notes?
- 4 Α. I took these notes, correct.
- 5 Q. Do they accurately reflect what happened in
- 6 that meeting?
- 7 Α. I believe so, yeah.
- You should have in front of you now what 8 Q.
- 9 we'll mark as Exhibit 12, TDOC 014498.
- 10 (Exhibit 12 was marked.)
- 11 MS. HERZFELD: And I just put it in the chat.
- 12 Does everyone have it, Exhibit 12?
- 13 MS. POLLY: I do.
- 14 MR. AUMANN: Yes.
- 15 BY MS. HERZFELD:
- 16 0. And if you could take a look at it. It's an
- e-mail that says prescope meeting notes, dated December 17
- 18 26, 2018; is that correct?
- 19 Α. Uh-huh.
- 20 And it's sent from De'Aundrea Pointer to Q.
- 21 Melissa Boaz, to you, and to Jaclyn Clute. Did I read
- 22 that correctly?
- 23 Α. Correct.
- 24 Q. Who is De'Aundrea Pointer?
- 25 A. She was a staff auditor on the 2020

- 1 performance audit.
- 2 Q. And Melissa Boaz?
- 3 A. Melissa Boaz and Jaclyn Clute were my
- 4 co-in-charges on the audit.
- 5 Q. What is a prescope meeting?
- A. At the end of our planning, basically when
- 7 we're doing our background research and developing the
- 8 objectives, items that we are going to consider for the
- 9 audit to look into, we come up with a -- we have a scope
- 10 meeting with upper management to discuss the issues that
- 11 we've identified during the planning. And we talk about
- 12 and narrow our focus on the objectives that we want to
- include in the audit for this time.
- 14 Q. It looks like attached to this e-mail is what
- 15 is called planning notes. Do you see that?
- 16 A. Uh-huh.
- 17 Q. Do you know who took those planning notes?
- 18 A. I'm thinking I did, but there may have been
- 19 several of us that kept notes. Usually that's the case,
- 20 we -- you know, each of us take some notes and then we
- 21 compile them together.
- Q. Will you take a look at the notes that were
- 23 attached here and let me know if they're an accurate
- 24 reflection of the meeting that you had?
- 25 A. I am not sure those are the actual meeting

- 1 notes. I think these are ideas. So the top part where
- 2 it says staffing ideas last time we looked at, that's
- 3 just some notes that I made about what we did in the
- 4 2017 audit. Possible issue incident reporting. So
- 5 these are coming up with ideas to present to management,
- 6 possible things to look at. So these are not notes of
- 7 the actual meeting.
- 8 Q. This is more your brainstorming?
- 9 A. Yeah, this is just brainstorming, thinking
- 10 out loud. Just jotting down some notes for myself to
- 11 possibly bring up during the discussions.
- 12 (Exhibit 13 was marked.)
- 13 BY MS. HERZFELD:
- 14 Q. Now I'm showing you Exhibit 13, and that is
- 15 TDOC 011758, and it is a seven-page document if you'll
- 16 take a look at it. I will also put it in the chat. If
- 17 you'll go ahead and review that and let me know when you
- 18 get a chance to glance at it.
- 19 Before you have to read the whole thing, I
- 20 will ask you, it's dated Monday, January 7th, 2019; is
- 21 that correct?
- 22 A. Correct.
- Q. It says that it is the 1/7 staff meeting; is
- 24 that right?
- 25 A. Correct.

- 1 Q. And do you know if these are meeting minutes
- 2 or notes that were taken during that meeting?
- 3 A. These are just my notes of what we covered in
- 4 the meeting.
- 5 Q. So you took these notes?
- 6 A. I believe I did, yes.
- 7 Q. Do you have any reason to think that anything
- 8 contained within it is not accurate?
- 9 A. I don't believe so.
- 10 MR. AUMANN: Hey Tricia?
- MS. HERZFELD: Yes.
- MR. AUMANN: Just a second. I just heard
- 13 from Erin that she's having problems with her computer.
- 14 She's not on screen. So I just want to make sure if Joe
- 15 is -- I see him on screen, if he is available if
- 16 CoreCivic has any objections. Okay, I just got an
- 17 e-mail from her that yeah, Joe is out, so if we could
- 18 just pause to let --
- 19 MS. HERZFELD: Sure. We'll go off the
- 20 record.
- 21 (Off-the-record the court reporter
- 22 read back testimony.)
- MS. POLLY: This is Erin Polly. My computer
- 24 shut down and no one on behalf of CoreCivic was
- 25 participating in the deposition from the time that the

- 1 witness was looking at Exhibit 11 up until now. Other
- 2 counsel did not realize my absence until I notified them
- 3 of it through an e-mail on my cell phone. We have
- 4 agreed that we will just lodge an objection to the form
- 5 to everything that took place between when the witness
- 6 was reviewing Exhibit 11 up until now, so that if an
- 7 issue does arise once we receive the transcript later
- 8 on, we've made our objection now.
- 9 MS. HERZFELD: And we're in agreement with
- 10 that.
- 11 BY MS. HERZFELD:
- 12 Q. Okay, moving on, Exhibit 13, you've had an
- 13 opportunity to review it, sir?
- 14 A. Yes.
- 15 Q. And I think you had said that you believe
- 16 these to be your notes; is that correct?
- 17 A. Correct.
- 18 Q. When you reviewed them, is there anything in
- 19 these notes that you think is inaccurate?
- 20 A. I don't believe so.
- 21 Q. And they're an accurate reflection of your
- 22 recollection of the meeting?
- 23 A. Yes.
- 24 (Exhibit 14 was marked.)
- 25 BY MS. HERZFELD:

	,
1	Page 73 Q. I'm going to show you what we've marked as
2	Exhibit 14. Do you see that in front of you?
3	A. Yes.
4	Q. TDOC 012554.
5	A. Can we just go back a second?
6	Q. Sure.
7	A. The 12 or 13, that's a meeting that we had
8	with our staff, right?
9	Q. Yes. Exhibit 13.
10	A. Yeah, okay. Yeah, that was the staff at the
11	beginning of the audit.
12	Q. Did you need to see it again?
13	A. No, I just wanted to make sure that we
14	weren't thinking it was a different meeting, like a
15	scope meeting.
16	Q. And so Exhibit 14 should be what is in front
17	of you now, TDOC 012554. It says comptroller input on
18	preliminary objectives, dated Wednesday, January 30th,
19	2019. Did I read that correctly?
20	A. I believe so, yeah.
21	Q. That's from Dena Winningham?
22	A. Correct.
23	Q. And Dena Winningham is who?
24	A. Manager, audit manager.
25	Q. And that's sent to you, and Melissa, and

- 1 Jaclyn; is that right?
- 2 A. Correct.
- 3 Q. If you'll look down at the last bullet point
- 4 on her e-mail.
- 5 A. Uh-huh.
- Q. Do you see what I'm talking about? Do you
- 7 see the part that I've highlighted here in yellow?
- 8 A. I do. I see it, yeah.
- 9 Q. It says: The bullet point under contract
- 10 requirements concerning breach of contract should be
- 11 deleted. I know that was a legislative concern in the
- 12 follow-up correction hearing in December, and Julie also
- 13 emphasized it at our group meeting before Christmas.
- 14 But the view is that it is a legal question that we
- 15 can't address. Did I read that correctly?
- 16 A. Correct.
- 17 Q. Do you know what they're talking about there?
- 18 A. I do not recall specifically what that is
- 19 about. I believe it's about the fact that CoreCivic --
- 20 that the state is technically -- has by statute only
- 21 contracted with one private prison. And that's South
- 22 Central. And we were thinking about bringing that to
- 23 the legislature's attention. The Trousdale, Hardeman
- 24 County and Whiteville are all contracted through the
- 25 counties and not directly through the state.

- 1 And the way the statute reads right now,
- 2 technically the state is only allowed to contract with
- 3 one private prison. But that -- it was decided that
- 4 that is a legal question. It's not something that we
- 5 can review as performance-wise, so they were going to
- 6 let that go.
- 7 Q. Do you know if it was ever addressed through
- 8 legal?
- 9 A. Beyond this point, we moved on with our audit
- 10 and I do not know if it was filed with legal or what the
- 11 status of that question is.
- 12 Q. The question about where it says, I know this
- 13 is a legislative concern in the follow-up hearing. Do
- 14 you know what she's talking about there?
- 15 A. Yeah, it was mentioned during the hearing,
- 16 some questions about how the state is contracted with
- 17 CoreCivic and the nature of the relationships and the
- 18 agreements. It was brought up during, I think, one of
- 19 the hearings.
- Q. Sir, do you know who Lee Dotson is?
- 21 A. Yeah, he's the department of corrections --
- 22 he's the one for 2020 that is over the prisons, the
- 23 assistant commissioner of prisons.
- Q. I am putting on your screen what we'll mark
- 25 as Exhibit 15, TDOC 013491. It's a two-page document.

- 1 The subject matter is Lee Dotson. And it's dated
- 2 Monday, February 4th, 2019.
- 3 (Exhibit 15 was marked.)
- 4 BY MS. HERZFELD:
- 5 Q. Do you see where I am?
- 6 A. I do.
- 7 Q. Are these notes?
- 8 A. These are, basically, my notes of questions
- 9 that we were going to ask Mr. Dotson, I believe. Yeah,
- 10 this is a part of the IMOF, which is a standard
- 11 questionnaire we do with all upper management when we do
- 12 an audit.
- 13 Q. Did you have that meeting with Mr. Dotson?
- 14 A. I believe we did, yes.
- 15 Q. Did he answer the questions?
- 16 A. I'm sure he did.
- 17 Q. Do you know if they were ever answered in
- 18 writing?
- 19 A. We would have written them up and put them
- 20 into -- in T-mate, our working papers.
- 21 Q. Do you recall having any concerns based on
- 22 any of the answers that were given to you by Mr. Dotson?
- 23 A. I cannot recall that we had any at the
- 24 moment. I would have to look at my notes of the
- 25 interview. But whatever information we gained would

- 1 have been to help us define what we wanted to look at.
- Q. Okay, sir, I've now put in front of you what
- 3 we'll mark as Exhibit 16. It says weekly sanctions
- 4 report, TDOC 016008. It's a two-page document.
- 5 A. Okay.
- 6 (Exhibit 16 was marked.)
- 7 BY MS. HERZFELD:
- 8 Q. Have you ever seen a weekly sanctions report
- 9 before?
- 10 A. I don't recall.
- 11 Q. And this is an e-mail that is sent to you?
- 12 A. I guess it is, yes. Oh, yes. This is a
- 13 weekly sanctions. This is dealing with parole officers.
- Q. When you say it's dealing with parole
- 15 officers, do you know what that means?
- 16 A. Yes. They also -- the department of
- 17 corrections, another half of it, is not just the prisons
- 18 that they operate, but probation and parole is now under
- 19 the department of corrections as well. And their weekly
- 20 sanctions is basically sanctions that judges can levy on
- 21 parolees, I believe, when they break -- when they break
- 22 a rule of their being on parole.
- 23 So basically, there's -- the department is
- 24 trying to come up with standardized sanctions that
- 25 judges can follow in a way, you know, to help be

- 1 objective on how the sanctions are levied. But
- 2 ultimately, right now judges have the ability to decide
- 3 how to handle when a probationer violates their parole.
- 4 Q. So that doesn't have anything to do with the
- 5 audit at Trousdale? Well --
- 6 A. No.
- 7 Q. -- TDOC vis-a-vis Trousdale? Okay, great.
- 8 If you will flip with me to the second page. So if I am
- 9 understanding you correctly, it sounds like that second
- 10 page, this is not the attachment, this is just a
- 11 separate document, TDOC 016009, dated Monday, February
- 12 4th?
- 13 A. These are just notes of, I believe, questions
- 14 we wanted to discuss with Mr. Landers in our interview
- 15 with him, his planning interview.
- 16 Q. And again, who is Mr. Landers?
- 17 A. Mr. Landers was the former chief financial
- 18 officer for the department of corrections.
- 19 Q. How many times did you meet with him in
- 20 preparation for your audit?
- 21 A. At least three times. And I believe Melissa
- 22 and Jaclyn met with him several times during the audit
- 23 to discuss questions.
- O. Should there be notes that reflect what
- 25 happened in those meetings?

- 1 A. Yeah, all of the notes to every interview we
- 2 had with him will be in the working papers.
- 3 Q. Great. Thank you very much.
- 4 (Exhibit 17 was marked.)
- 5 BY MS. HERZFELD:
- Q. I'm showing you what we've marked as Exhibit
- 7 17, TDOC 013295. Is this an e-mail sent from you to
- 8 Carolyn Jordan?
- 9 A. Yes.
- 10 Q. Who is Carolyn Jordan?
- 11 A. Carolyn Jordan is the -- she's basically the
- 12 oversight person for the department of correction for
- 13 the CoreCivic facilities. She's the one that supervises
- 14 or oversees the contract monitors.
- 15 Q. So in this e-mail, you're asking Ms. Jordan
- 16 to have Hardeman and Whiteville facilities provide a
- 17 report that matches the information in this report from
- 18 Trousdale; is that right?
- 19 A. Correct.
- 20 Q. And it looks like the attachment is an Excel
- 21 spreadsheet that says, close max PC. Did I read that
- 22 correctly?
- 23 A. Correct. Yes.
- Q. Do you know what type of information is in
- 25 that Excel spreadsheet?

- 1 A. Yes, that was looking for the number of
- 2 inmates at the facility that are designated as close or
- 3 max security level.
- 4 Q. And that was -- was that a report that you
- 5 would get routinely from Trousdale?
- 6 MR. AUMANN: Objection to form.
- 7 THE WITNESS: It's a report that if we were
- 8 looking into an issue, that we would routinely request,
- 9 yes.
- 10 BY MS. HERZFELD:
- 11 Q. And do you know how often you would receive a
- 12 report like that from Trousdale?
- 13 A. We would only receive it if we asked for it.
- 14 Q. Would those reports be included in your
- 15 working papers?
- 16 A. They are in the working papers, correct.
- Q. Okay, great.
- MS. HERZFELD: And Tom, again, I don't know
- 19 that I have located the attachment for this e-mail, so
- 20 if that's one other thing, we could just figure that
- 21 out, that would be fantastic.
- MR. AUMANN: I'll put it on the to-do list.
- MS. HERZFELD: Thanks so much. It's big
- 24 production, so I could have missed it or perhaps, you
- 25 know, it just got overlooked. Okay, Exhibit 18.

- 1 (Exhibit 18 was marked.)
- 2 BY MS. HERZFELD:
- Q. Sir, I'm going to show you what we have
- 4 marked as Exhibit 18, TDOC 029720. It's a six-page
- 5 document. Do you see that in front of you?
- 6 A. I do.
- 7 Q. This says that it's the Tennessee Department
- 8 of Correction corrective action plan six-month follow-up
- 9 report submitted July 3rd, 2020. Did I read that
- 10 correctly?
- 11 A. Correct.
- 12 Q. Is that the six-month follow-up report that
- 13 we talked about earlier in the deposition?
- 14 A. Yes.
- 15 Q. So this would be the follow-up to the 2020
- 16 audit; is that correct?
- 17 A. Correct.
- 18 Q. If I understood your testimony before, this
- 19 comes -- this six-month follow-up report comes from TDOC
- 20 to the comptroller's office, and then it's put in a file
- 21 until there is another audit; is that correct?
- 22 A. Until the next audit, yes.
- Q. And so there's no follow-up that is done to
- 24 verify that any of the information in this report that's
- 25 been reported by TDOC is accurate. Not by the

- 1 comptroller's office; is that right?
- MS. POLLY: Object to the form.
- 3 THE WITNESS: Not at the time that we receive
- 4 it, no.
- 5 BY MS. HERZFELD:
- 6 Q. Okay, great. Thank you so much, sir.
- 7 A. We would, obviously, when we begin the next
- 8 audit, it would possibly -- you know, we would possibly
- 9 check into these, if not all of them. Well, we would,
- 10 as part of the next audit, we look at the prior findings
- 11 and conclusions, and we verify that the corrective
- 12 action has been taken. So it is part of the audit, it's
- 13 just we don't do it until we begin the next audit.
- 14 Q. Thank you for that. And then on your screen
- 15 now, there should be what we'll mark as Exhibit 19, TDOC
- 16 010081.
- 17 (Exhibit 19 was marked.)
- 18 BY MS. HERZFELD:
- 19 Q. Do you see that on your screen?
- 20 A. Yes.
- Q. And it looks like it's a two-page transcript
- 22 of a chat. If you will go ahead and take a look at it,
- 23 I will also drop it into the chat here.
- 24 A. Okay.
- 25 Q. Do you have a chat function at work?

- 1 A. We do.
- 2 Q. Is that something that you use with people
- 3 within the department?
- A. With the comptroller's office, amongst
- 5 ourselves.
- Q. Yeah, when I said the department, I'm sorry,
- 7 I meant the comptroller's office, yes. Amongst
- 8 yourselves internally, you use this chat?
- 9 A. Uh-huh.
- 10 Q. Do you typically archive those chats for open
- 11 records purposes?
- 12 A. I think I kept it for myself.
- 13 Q. Who is David Wright?
- 14 A. He was the co-in-charge on -- at this time --
- 15 I don't remember when this was. When was this? Is
- 16 there a date when this was?
- 17 Q. I have not seen one.
- 18 A. Because I believe this is the 2020 audit. He
- 19 was a staff auditor. But it might have been for the --
- 20 if it was the 2017 audit, he was a co-in-charge.
- 21 O. It doesn't look like we can tell from this
- 22 chat which year it's from.
- 23 A. I think it's the 2017 audit.
- Q. And if we'll go through it, he texted you at
- 25 8:39: Hey, Vince, what section have you not done any

- 1 work in so I can help? Not really sure where to step in
- 2 because I do not want to duplicate anything that you may
- 3 have done. Did I read that correctly?
- 4 A. Okay.
- 5 Q. And then you write back and say that you
- 6 haven't done certain sections and you kind of talk about
- 7 that?
- 8 A. Yeah. This, I think, was at the beginning of
- 9 the audit, so we were starting to work through our
- 10 planning steps. And so I had not gotten to those
- 11 sections yet. So he was asking which ones could he
- 12 start working on.
- 13 Q. Have you had an opportunity to review the
- 14 entire chat?
- 15 A. No, not yet.
- 16 Q. Why don't you just go ahead and review that
- 17 and then I can ask you some questions about it.
- 18 A. Okay.
- 19 Q. Did you recall this conversation at all?
- 20 A. Vaguely.
- Q. What was it about?
- 22 A. Basically, like I said, trying to work on the
- 23 planning steps. He was asking me some questions about
- 24 the previous audits. Obviously, we would be following
- 25 up, looking to see if they were resolved. And I think,

- 1 you know, we're just discussing moving forward, getting
- 2 started on the audit. He has a daughter. I gave him a
- 3 sleeping bag to use because she wanted to go camping.
- 4 And like I said, just had trouble concentrating a little
- 5 bit there.
- And we're just talking about trying to come
- 7 up, anything to do with the entrance conference. So
- 8 this is basically the very beginning of the audit, and
- 9 we're just starting to get into the work. I make a
- 10 reference, I haven't read it yet. I just hadn't gotten
- 11 to reading some of the policies and procedures yet at
- 12 that time. Like I said, it's the very beginning of the
- 13 audit and we're collecting documentation and we're
- 14 putting it into the audit to review.
- 15 Q. Do you know why you saved this particular
- 16 chat? Was there anything of significance to it that
- 17 made you save it?
- 18 A. Honestly, I don't remember. I'm sorry.
- 19 Q. It's okay. You saved this one and it's the
- 20 only one that I saw. And so I was just curious if there
- 21 was a reason why this one was saved.
- 22 A. Yeah, I'm trying to figure out why I saved,
- 23 too.
- Q. Great. It does say right here, if you'll
- look with me on the screen where I'm highlighting:

- 1 David seems to say he does not want to confuse any
- 2 potential future peer review group. What is a peer
- 3 review group in the audit process?
- A. All of our audits are, as part of -- how
- 5 should I say this? It's part of a professional self-
- 6 check, so to speak. We do internal peer reviews so we
- 7 have audit teams within our audit office that will
- 8 review our audits to ensure that, you know, we've done a
- 9 good job. We've done -- that our work is good. Kind of
- 10 a quality review check.
- 11 And we also participate in a national
- 12 organization where other states -- we go and audit other
- 13 state's audits to, you know, comment on the quality of
- 14 their audits. And we also have peer reviewers come into
- 15 our office that review our audits. So when we're
- 16 documenting our working papers, we like to make sure
- 17 things are clear so when a peer reviewer comes in, they
- 18 can understand.
- We generally like to have working papers
- 20 that, if anybody opens it up, they will be able to
- 21 understand what they are. And just thinking of
- 22 potential peer review is one way to think that. So a
- 23 future peer reviewer could be somebody from Colorado,
- 24 say, or another state audit's office that comes in and
- 25 would look at our working papers.

- 1 Q. Do you know if either of the 2017 or 2020
- 2 audits were peer reviewed?
- 3 A. I believe the 2017 was. One of them was. I
- 4 believe one of them was. I can't remember if it was the
- 5 '20 or the 2017.
- 6 Q. Do you know who peer reviewed it?
- 7 A. I do not recall, no.
- 8 Q. I'm putting on the screen what we're going to
- 9 mark as collective Exhibit No. 20. It starts with TDOC
- 10 013562.
- 11 (Exhibit 20 was marked.)
- 12 BY MS. HERZFELD:
- 13 Q. Do you see that on the screen?
- 14 A. I do.
- 15 Q. I will put it in chat. I will submit to you
- 16 that it is a collection of news articles that were in
- 17 the production that were produced to us. You should now
- 18 have it in the chat as well.
- 19 A. Uh-huh.
- 20 Q. And it looks like all of those news articles
- 21 reference Trousdale Turner at some point. And you can
- 22 feel free to take a look at them. But my question is
- 23 actually kind of basic. Why is it that I am finding
- 24 news articles about Trousdale in the production? Did
- 25 somebody collect those as part of the audit process?

- 1 A. Well, like I said, at the beginning of an
- 2 audit in our planning, we are doing the background
- 3 research of the entity and agency. At that time,
- 4 Trousdale Turner was in the news and the legislators
- 5 were aware of it. It was a big concern. I guess there
- 6 were -- you know, a lot of incidents were happening at
- 7 the facility. So it was making a lot of press. We were
- 8 documenting that and reading the news. And it's just
- 9 part of collecting information on an entity that we're
- 10 auditing.
- 11 MS. HERZFELD: Thank you. I don't think I
- 12 have any more questions for you. You've been a very
- 13 fine witness and thank you for sitting here and dealing
- 14 with my technical difficulties in the beginning. But I
- don't have any more questions, so I'm happy to pass the
- 16 witness.
- 17 THE WITNESS: Okay, thank you.
- MS. POLLY: Tom, would you all like to go
- 19 first?
- MR. AUMANN: Feel free to go first.
- MS. POLLY: I do have some questions. I
- 22 would like to take a restroom break and then I think on
- 23 our end, we will need to probably take a lunch break for
- 24 our meeting. So I am fine to go ahead and take a break
- 25 now and come back later or start a little bit of what we

- 1 can do, take a lunch break, and then come back.
- 2 MS. HERZFELD: How much questioning do you
- 3 think you have? How long?
- 4 MS. POLLY: Thirty minutes to an hour.
- 5 MS. HERZFELD: Tom, how much time do you
- 6 think you have?
- 7 MR. AUMANN: I don't anticipate having much
- 8 of anything. I will consult with Nikki. And I don't
- 9 imagine that we'll have too much.
- 10 MS. HERZFELD: Maybe let's just try to take a
- 11 five-minute break and push through. Maybe you can get
- 12 done before lunch.
- MS. POLLY: That's fine. Tom, while you guys
- 14 are on the break, do you want to maybe go first just
- 15 because yours -- sounds like yours might be a little
- 16 shorter than mine.
- MR. AUMANN: I don't know that we will have
- 18 any questions. So Nikki and I will consult and if we
- 19 have any brief ones, we will go ahead. If not, we will
- 20 just turn it over to you.
- MS. POLLY: Okay, that's great.
- 22 (Recess observed.)
- MR. AUMANN: We don't have any questions on
- 24 TDOC's end at this time.
- 25 EXAMINATION BY MS. POLLY:

- 1 Q. Mr. Finamore, my name is Erin Polly. Joe
- Welborn and I represent the CoreCivic defendants in this
- 3 case. I have just a few questions for you. I just want
- 4 to get a little bit of background on you. Can you tell
- 5 me where are you from originally?
- 6 A. Where I'm from, like I was born?
- 7 Q. Yeah. Where did you grow up?
- 8 A. I was born in Michigan, Ann Arbor Michigan.
- 9 And I moved when I was 10 to Columbia, South Carolina.
- 10 Q. How long have you been here in Tennessee?
- 11 A. Since 1995.
- 12 Q. And Ms. Herzfeld asks questions a little bit
- 13 faster than my hands work, so I've got a few things to
- 14 go over with you that you previously mentioned, but I
- 15 just want to make sure I've got them down. Where did
- 16 you get your bachelor's degree?
- 17 A. My bachelor's degree is from Western Carolina
- 18 University.
- 19 O. What was that in?
- 20 A. Bachelor's of science and psychology.
- 21 Q. And then you said that you have a master's as
- 22 well?
- A. Correct.
- Q. Where did you get your master's?
- 25 A. I got my masters at Middle Tennessee State

- 1 University.
- Q. What was your master's in?
- 3 A. Industrial and organizational psychology.
- 4 Q. And you previously went through the members
- 5 of your team when you did the performance audit review
- 6 of the department of correction, the report being
- 7 generated in January of 2020. Can you tell me again who
- 8 the members of your team were?
- 9 A. Certainly, if I can recall it all. Melissa
- 10 Boaz, Jaclyn Clute and myself were the in-charges. And
- 11 then we have, let's see, De'Aundrea Pointer, De'Aundrea
- 12 Pointer, Chris Colvard -- do I have it here? Jackson
- 13 Wickham, Yolanda Douglas, Michael Deloach, Valeria
- 14 Stadelman, Chas Taplin, Sarah Vandergriff, David Wright,
- 15 Heather Murray, and Fonda Douglas, and Mason Ball.
- 16 Q. By my count, that's 14 different individuals,
- 17 15 including you?
- 18 A. Correct.
- 19 Q. And they all participated in one way or
- 20 another in the comptroller's audit of the Tennessee
- 21 Department of Correction?
- 22 A. Correct.
- Q. Are any of these individuals, including you
- 24 -- do you have experience in corrections?
- 25 A. No.

- 1 Q. Have any of these individuals, including you,
- 2 ever worked in a corrections environment, jail, prison,
- 3 detention facility, residential re-entry facility?
- A. Not to my knowledge.
- 5 Q. Did you and your team retain any corrections
- 6 professionals to help with the audit?
- 7 A. No, ma'am.
- 8 Q. Did you and your team consult with any
- 9 corrections professionals in connection with the audit?
- 10 A. No, ma'am.
- 11 Q. And just so that I can understand kind of the
- 12 scope of what you all do, do you conduct audits with
- 13 respect to other areas outside of corrections?
- 14 A. Yes.
- 15 O. What are some of those areas?
- 16 A. We audit all of the major departments of the
- 17 State of Tennessee.
- 18 Q. What are some of those?
- 19 A. Department of safety, department of health,
- 20 department of agriculture. TRICOR, we do TRICOR.
- 21 Basically every major department and/or, in some cases,
- 22 committees, but -- that fall under the sunset law.
- 23 Q. Is it fair to say that part of your job is to
- 24 find either issues or areas of improvement for the
- 25 various departments that you audit?

- 1 MS. HERZFELD: Object to the form.
- 2 THE WITNESS: Our role is to go in and see --
- 3 basically, provide an assessment on how well the
- 4 department is meeting its mission, following the
- 5 statutes and policies and procedures in place. We --
- 6 some areas that we look at our performance, in terms of
- 7 efficiency. You know, how well -- if we identify any
- 8 problems, obviously that's a focus, but it's usually for
- 9 improvement. I mean, if we were to find fraud, that
- 10 would be a different issue.
- 11 But mostly, it's basically to -- the issues
- 12 that we find are either compliance or in some cases,
- 13 there might be a statute that is preventing or
- 14 hindering, you know, the performance of a facility. So
- 15 we will present that to the legislature for
- 16 consideration.
- There is a wide purview of what we end up
- 18 looking at, but our main purpose is to basically make
- 19 the agency work better and to ensure compliance and that
- 20 the agency is performing as it should be.
- 21 BY MS. POLLY:
- 22 Q. Have you ever had an instance where you
- 23 didn't find any issues with an agency's performance?
- 24 A. That -- I don't believe so. We usually find
- 25 something.

- 1 Q. I'm quessing you usually find a lot of
- 2 things?
- 3 MS. HERZFELD: Object to the form.
- 4 THE WITNESS: It just depends on the agency
- 5 and what our objectives are at the time and the data
- 6 that we find in our review.
- 7 BY MS. POLLY:
- 8 Q. Am I correct that the materials that you
- 9 reviewed should have been produced to us through your
- 10 lawyer in connection with the audit?
- 11 A. I believe so, yes.
- 12 Q. One thing I didn't see in there, I didn't see
- 13 -- focusing on Trousdale. I didn't see the
- 14 accreditation report that they have from the American
- 15 Corrections Association. Do you know if you reviewed
- 16 that?
- 17 A. It's in the audit. Yeah, we looked at that.
- 18 Q. For Trousdale?
- 19 A. I believe so. I think we have a copy of it.
- 20 We retained the accreditation reports for all four
- 21 facilities.
- Q. When you say all four facilities, do you mean
- 23 all four of the CoreCivic facilities?
- A. And we also got some for the state ones, the
- 25 ones that we looked at, yeah.

- 1 Q. Did you review any Tennessee Corrections
- 2 Institute documents regarding Trousdale in connection
- 3 with the audits?
- A. I can't -- I don't remember for sure. We
- 5 might have. They would be in our working papers.
- 6 Q. Did you review any PREA reviews or
- 7 certifications of Trousdale in connection with the
- 8 audit?
- 9 A. We did look at the PREA cases.
- 10 Q. Did you look at any certifications that
- 11 Trousdale received in connection with its PREA -- with
- 12 its implementation of various PREA protocols?
- 13 A. I wasn't the one who actually looked at the
- 14 PREA. I'm sure that we probably did. Like I said, it
- 15 would be in the working papers on that. PREA was an
- 16 area that we did look at, so I believe we would. And we
- 17 talked to, you know, the department's PREA coordinator.
- 18 Q. You said that you and some of your teammates
- 19 visited the Trousdale Turner Correctional Center; is
- 20 that correct?
- 21 A. Yes.
- Q. How many of you actually went to Trousdale?
- 23 A. The whole team.
- 24 Q. All 15 of you?
- 25 A. Let me make sure. I believe everybody on the

- 1 team was there, yes, correct.
- 2 Q. How long were you all there?
- 3 A. Fonda might not have been there. Fonda
- 4 Douglas may not have been there, now that I remember.
- 5 We were there for a week. And then we made one visit.
- 6 We had a day trip that was later in the audit, the end,
- 7 to shore up some additional questions.
- 8 Q. When you were there, where did you and your
- 9 team go within the facility?
- 10 A. We went to various locations throughout the
- 11 facility, depending on the audit issues we were looking
- 12 at. We visited several of the inmate pods. We visited
- 13 segregation. We visited the visiting center. We
- 14 visited the library, the education area. We took a tour
- 15 of the whole facility. But I believe most of our focus
- 16 was in those areas.
- But yeah, we definitely visited several pods.
- 18 Charlie unit. Whisky unit. Bravo unit. I'm trying to
- 19 remember others. Like I said, it would depend on which
- 20 issue, which area we went to. But we pretty much
- 21 covered the facility.
- Q. Did you basically have free reign to go
- 23 wherever you wanted to go?
- A. Yes. If we needed to go somewhere, we would
- 25 tell the warden or Chris Brun and they would give us

- 1 access. We went to the control room. We went to -- I'm
- 2 trying to think of other areas. Yeah, we went to most
- 3 areas of the prison, I believe.
- 4 Q. As you went through the various areas of the
- 5 facility, did you have any concerns about your safety?
- A. For the most part, no, but when you're in a
- 7 facility -- there was one time when we came out of the
- 8 count room and the warden was leading us out of the
- 9 room. And he went out of -- there was another door that
- 10 led to the outside. And he got trapped outside just as
- 11 a line of inmates were crossing in front of us.
- 12 So Melissa Boaz and myself were caught in the
- 13 hallway with just us as the inmates went before us.
- 14 That was a little unnerving. I think there were some
- instances where some inmates had said some things to us,
- 16 but nothing substantial other than that.
- 17 Q. And nothing happened as a result of those
- 18 inmates walking by you when the warden was trapped on
- 19 the other side of the door?
- 20 A. No.
- 21 Q. During a break, I'll tell you my favorite
- 22 thing that an inmate ever said to me when I was in a
- 23 facility, but we won't do that on the record.
- 24 A. Okay.
- Q. When you said you were there for a week, is

- 1 that five days?
- 2 Α. Yes, the work week.
- 3 For what number of hours a day were you **Q**.
- 4 generally there?
- 5 We usually work about 10 hours when we're on
- site. So we were there -- I can't remember if it was 6
- 7 8:00 to -- or 7:00 to 6:00, something like that.
- When you were there, did you find the 8 Q.
- 9 CoreCivic employees to be helpful in getting you either
- 10 materials that you needed or access to areas of the
- 11 facility that you needed?
- 12 Yes, the employees were very helpful. Α.
- 13 Did the warden instruct the employees in any 0.
- 14 way on how to handle you and your team?
- MS. HERZFELD: Object to the form. 15
- 16 THE WITNESS: From our experience, the warden
- 17 instructed his team to provide us whatever information
- 18 that we needed, and to assist with any of our questions,
- 19 and to cooperate with us as best they could.
- 20 BY MS. POLLY:
- 21 Who was the warden at the time? Q.
- 22 Α. Washburn.
- 23 And my questions -- and I should have said Q.
- 24 this at the beginning, but you have assumed as well. My
- 25 questions are going to focus on the most recent audit

- 1 that the comptroller performed; is that fair?
- 2 A. Yes.
- 3 Q. In reading through the performance audit
- 4 report, I saw that the comptroller would make
- 5 statements, and then it looked as though the Tennessee
- 6 Department of Correction had an opportunity to respond
- 7 to some of those findings; is that correct?
- 8 A. Yes.
- 9 Q. Can you explain that process?
- 10 A. When we conclude an audit and we are
- 11 finishing the writing of the report, we -- before we
- 12 publish the report and finalize the report, we provide a
- 13 draft copy to the agency, to the department. And they
- 14 are allowed to review the report in its entirety. And
- 15 they're also allowed to provide management comments on
- 16 any of the findings.
- 17 And in some cases, I think we've done
- 18 observations as well if they -- if the department wanted
- 19 to have a comment. But we allow them to, you know, have
- 20 their -- make some comments on those and we publish
- 21 those with the report. It's a standard procedure that
- 22 we do with each audit that we do for every department.
- Q. Did CoreCivic have any ability to comment on
- 24 the findings?
- 25 A. That would be at the discretion of the

- 1 department of correction. We were auditing the
- 2 department of correction, therefore, our report and the
- 3 opportunity to respond to those findings went to them.
- 4 And I guess that would be up to them to decide or pass
- 5 it along to CoreCivic.
- 6 Q. Do you know if the department of correction
- 7 gave CoreCivic the ability to respond to the 2020 audit
- 8 findings?
- 9 A. I don't -- I can't say exactly for sure, but
- 10 I believe -- it was our assumption that they did. We
- 11 would see no reason why they wouldn't.
- 12 Q. Were there some findings that the Tennessee
- 13 Department of Correction concurred with and then some
- 14 that they did not concur with, or that they only
- 15 concurred in part with?
- 16 A. I believe that's true, yes.
- 17 Q. In other words the department of corrections,
- in some respects, disagreed with the findings of the
- 19 comptroller in the 2020 audit?
- 20 A. I would have to look specifically at each
- 21 one. I would not say as a whole they disagreed, no.
- 22 Q. Is it fair to say they disagreed with certain
- 23 of the findings?
- A. Again, I would have to review the audit
- 25 report to see. But my understanding is they agreed with

- 1 the majority of the report, yes. They concurred.
- MS. POLLY: What I want to do now is go
- 3 through some portions of the audit. But I think
- 4 probably it's a smart time to go ahead and take a break
- 5 for lunch. Can we go off the record?
- 6 (Luncheon recess observed.)
- 7 BY MS. POLLY:
- 8 Q. Mr. Finamore, did you have a good break?
- 9 A. Sure.
- 10 Q. I'm going to -- I had put it in the chat, but
- 11 I will go ahead and put it in the chat again so that
- 12 it's the most recent document. I put in the chat a
- document Bates stamped TDOC 13203 through 13207. Do you
- 14 see that?
- 15 A. Uh-huh.
- 16 Q. Can you please open that for me? Take your
- 17 time and review that.
- 18 A. Okay.
- 19 O. And it looks like this starts off as an
- 20 e-mail from Fonda Douglas to Jeanie. And her e-mail
- 21 address is Jeanie dot no exceptions at g-mail dot com;
- 22 is that correct?
- A. I believe so if that's what is listed.
- Q. Right up here?
- 25 A. Yeah, I see it.

- 1 Q. Who is Fonda Douglas?
- 2 A. Fonda is a former employee of ours.
- 3 Q. And was she involved in the audits of the
- 4 Tennessee Department of Correction?
- 5 A. She was.
- 6 Q. Was she involved in both audits, 2017 and
- 7 2020, or just one of them?
- 8 A. She was in both.
- 9 Q. And what was her role again?
- 10 A. She was a staff auditor.
- 11 Q. And as a staff auditor, what was she
- 12 responsible for with respect to the TDOC audits?
- 13 A. I think in the first one, she -- for the
- 14 detailed audit section, she was working on -- with David
- 15 with the probation and parole, a review of the two
- 16 previous findings of probation and parole. And on the
- 17 most recent audit, I think she worked on various things,
- 18 but not one issue completely. She was helping interpret
- 19 some information and some communications with follow-up
- 20 questions.
- Q. And in this e-mail from April 11th, 2017, it
- 22 appears as though Fonda is e-mailing Jeanie and is
- 23 saying: Per our conversation earlier, you mentioned
- 24 interest in talking with us concerning issues and
- 25 concerns your advocacy group has experienced with the

- 1 department of corrections. Did I read that correctly?
- 2 A. That's correct.
- 3 Q. Would citizens and organizations reach out to
- 4 you and other representatives of the comptroller to talk
- 5 about audits that you were performing?
- A. We contact advocacy groups that deal with the
- 7 department of corrections as a routine to discuss their
- 8 interactions with the department. So each audit that we
- 9 do, we will contact a variety of advocacy groups as part
- 10 of our research and planning steps.
- 11 Q. You scroll up a little bit, you'll see an
- 12 e-mail from Jeanie Alexander to Fonda Douglas dated
- 13 April 12th, 2017. Do you see that?
- 14 A. Uh-huh.
- 15 Q. Yes?
- 16 A. Yes. Sorry, yes.
- 17 Q. The reason we do that is just because we need
- 18 your verbal answer because sometimes the grunts that we
- 19 do in real life can be interpreted in different ways.
- 20 A. Of course.
- 21 Q. And in this e-mail, she references Alex
- 22 Freidman. Do you see that?
- A. Yes, I do.
- Q. She says that he is with the Human Rights
- 25 Defense Center?

- 1 A. Yes.
- 2 Q. Did anyone from the comptroller's office
- 3 contact the Human Rights Defense Center?
- A. I don't know if we contacted them directly,
- 5 but -- yeah, I don't remember if we contacted them
- 6 directly or not, but we did have an interview with them.
- 7 Q. Was that in connection with the 2017 audit or
- 8 the 2018 audit?
- 9 A. Just the 2017 audit.
- 10 Q. Do you know who Alex Freidman is?
- 11 A. At the time, we did not know. But yes, we
- 12 learned later who he was.
- Q. What did you learn about Alex Freidman?
- 14 A. Well, we obviously saw his involvement in
- 15 some of the hearings. And I guess he was a former
- 16 inmate at Trousdale.
- 17 Q. Do you know anything else about Alex
- 18 Freidman?
- 19 A. He -- well, at the time, he was an -- I
- 20 guess, worked for advocacy for prison rights. But yeah,
- 21 recently he was arrested.
- Q. Do you know why he recently was arrested?
- 23 A. Didn't he try to break into the prison over
- 24 at the sheriff's office or one of the Metro prisons that
- 25 was being built? I believe that's my understanding.

- 1 O. Tell me about the conversation with Alex
- 2 Friedman.
- 3 A. Back in 2017, it was -- we were just asking
- 4 his -- if he had any information, or I guess we were
- 5 looking for just his interactions with the department
- 6 and if there was any information that he could give us
- 7 that would be relevant. And I don't recall very much.
- 8 It was a brief interview.
- 9 Q. I'm going to ask you to look back at Exhibit
- 10 4. It's the 2020 audit.
- 11 A. The 2020 audit?
- 12 Q. Correct, it's in the chat. Do you have it
- 13 there in front of you?
- 14 A. I have a copy of it.
- 15 Q. Is this what you have in front of you?
- 16 A. Uh-huh. Yes, sorry.
- 17 Q. And that's the performance audit report,
- 18 department of correction, January 2020?
- 19 A. Correct.
- 20 Q. And this is the document that you and your
- 21 colleagues authored following your audit of the
- 22 Tennessee Department of Correction over several months?
- A. Correct.
- Q. In the audit, there are maybe 15 or so
- 25 findings. Explain to me what a finding is intended to

- 1 convey.
- 2 A. A finding is basically a noncompliance, an
- 3 issue that we find. Generally, it's significant to the
- 4 mission or the department able to complete its mission.
- 5 And it is an issue that we feel needs to be addressed.
- 6 And that the legislature needs to be aware of that can
- 7 significantly impact the department's ability to do its
- 8 mission. It's basically a noncompliance or a -- of a
- 9 significant nature.
- 10 Q. There are also observations mentioned in the
- 11 audit report. What are observations?
- 12 A. Observations are basically issues that we
- identify that don't quite reach the level of a finding,
- 14 however they could, if not addressed. And we provide
- 15 them for sort of, you know, something that to be aware
- 16 of for the legislature that should be addressed, or it
- 17 could become a finding. Usually, it's informational,
- 18 just to make them aware of the issue that could be
- 19 developing.
- 20 Q. How many facilities did you audit in order to
- 21 come up with this audit of the Tennessee Department of
- 22 Correction?
- 23 A. We went to six facilities.
- Q. Were those the only six facilities that you
- 25 audited or did you get information from other facilities

- 1 that played into the audit?
- 2 A. Those were the facilities that we audited
- 3 that we visited directly. We did visit some other
- 4 facilities during the planning phase. But the primary
- 5 focus of this audit was -- the primary data was from
- 6 those three -- those six facilities, sorry.
- 7 O. And what were the six facilities?
- 8 A. Turney Center, West -- Northwest, Northeast,
- 9 Trousdale Turner, Hardeman and Whiteville.
- 10 Q. And the first three are TDOC facilities and
- 11 the last three are CoreCivic facilities?
- 12 A. That's correct.
- Q. Do you have a paper version of this 2020
- 14 audit in front you?
- 15 A. I do.
- 16 Q. I'm going to go to certain pages, but I want
- 17 you to feel free to turn to any page of the audit as
- 18 we're talking through it.
- 19 A. Okay.
- Q. Do you see that I'm on Page 11 of the audit?
- 21 A. I do.
- Q. Finding 1 says: The department's leadership
- 23 failed to provide adequate oversight activities of
- 24 department and correctional facilities management in
- 25 several areas relating to inmates, correctional staff,

- 1 and the community, thereby affecting the department's
- 2 ability to meet its mission. Did I read that correctly?
- A. Correct.
- 4 Q. I'd like you to feel free to turn through the
- 5 pages that follow Finding 1. Do you see any specific
- 6 mention of Trousdale?
- 7 A. There isn't a specific mention of Trousdale
- 8 necessarily in this. This is a finding against the
- 9 department as a whole.
- 10 Q. Is that no, there's no specific mention of
- 11 Trousdale with respect to this finding?
- MS. HERZFELD: Object to the form.
- 13 THE WITNESS: Well, Trousdale is mentioned in
- 14 some of the findings that are referenced within it; but
- 15 no, the finding itself is not specifically against
- 16 Trousdale.
- 17 BY MS. POLLY:
- 18 Q. We discussed earlier, sometimes the -- well,
- 19 am I correct that the Tennessee Department of Correction
- 20 is permitted to respond to the findings?
- 21 A. That is correct.
- Q. And sometimes they concur, sometimes they
- 23 concur in part, and sometimes they disagree?
- 24 A. That is correct.
- Q. I'm on Page 15 of the audit. It says

- 1 management's comments. Is that the comment of the
- 2 department of correction?
- 3 A. Yes.
- 4 Q. And am I correct that it appears as though
- 5 the -- strike that. Am I correct that the department of
- 6 correction does not fully agree with Finding 1 and that
- 7 the department of correction says that it has
- 8 demonstrated an unwavering commitment to continual
- 9 improvements in the process of administering prisons and
- 10 supervising offenders in the community, well-established
- 11 and highly developed internal controls, policies and
- 12 processes are in place to protect the public, and ensure
- 13 the safe operations of prisons in the delivery of
- 14 effective community supervision in Tennessee?
- 15 A. They agree in part. And then, yes, it does
- 16 say that.
- 17 Q. Finding 2 is on Page 24. And it says: The
- 18 department's overall annual compliance percentage scores
- 19 do not provide a clear measure of correctional facility
- 20 performance. Did I read that correctly?
- 21 A. You did, yes.
- Q. Does this finding just kind of focus on how
- 23 the Tennessee Department of Correction calculates a
- 24 facility's compliance score?
- MS. HERZFELD: Object to the form.

- 1 THE WITNESS: Yes, this is pertaining to
- 2 their internal review process that they have an -- they
- 3 have an internal compliance division within the
- 4 department of correction that does their own review of
- 5 facilities. And they create these reports and with
- 6 scores on them. And so our findings pertaining to how
- 7 they rate those scores and present the information to
- 8 the commissioner.
- 9 BY MS. POLLY:
- 10 Q. And so am I correct that the finding here by
- 11 the comptroller was just a critique of how the Tennessee
- 12 Department of Correction calculated that compliance
- 13 score that they rendered for every facility?
- 14 A. Correct.
- 15 Q. What is the range of that compliance score?
- 16 Is it a one-to-ten type thing? Is it a one-to-a-hundred
- 17 type thing? Is it a percentage?
- 18 A. The compliance scores we list there in Table
- 19 2. They range in a hundred percent.
- 20 Q. Looking at Table 2, do you see that it
- 21 references the Trousdale Turner Correctional Center?
- 22 A. Yes.
- Q. And under fiscal year 2017, 85 percent?
- 24 A. Yes.
- Q. Fiscal year 2018, 96.96 percent, and fiscal

- 1 year 2019, 94.96 percent. Did I read those percentages
- 2 correctly?
- A. You did.
- Q. Is that the -- is that intended to convey the
- 5 Tennessee Department of Corrections' assessment of the
- 6 compliance score of Trousdale during those fiscal years?
- 7 A. That is to represent the score that their
- 8 unit gave them on their review of Trousdale, and the
- 9 other units as well.
- 10 Q. So all of the facilities that fall under the
- 11 umbrella of the department of correction are represented
- 12 in this table?
- 13 A. We list the scores that the internal division
- 14 gave each of those facilities. And our problem is that
- 15 it's very difficult to tell. We state problems that may
- or may not exist because a department does not vary very
- 17 much in their range of scores. So you could have a
- 18 number of critical findings, and if a facility still
- 19 gets 95 percent, 96 percent, it masks that there really
- 20 could be a potential problem at the facility.
- 21 Q. I understand that. I guess my question is
- 22 more your findings aside, these are the scores that the
- 23 Tennessee Department of Correction gave to Trousdale in
- 24 2017, '18, and '19?
- 25 A. Yes, those are the scores that they gave on

- 1 the -- I think it was the evaluations they made during
- 2 those times, yes.
- 3 Q. Finding 3 is on Page 40. It says: The
- 4 department's ability to provide accurate and complete
- 5 information relating to deaths and other serious
- 6 incidents is problematic. Did I read that correctly?
- 7 A. Yes.
- 8 Q. Is the issue here with Finding 3 one of
- 9 documentation?
- 10 A. Yes.
- 11 O. And is it an issue of documentation
- 12 specifically in TOMIS?
- 13 A. Into TOMIS, yes.
- 14 0. What is TOMIS?
- 15 A. TOMIS is the department of correction's
- 16 information management system.
- 17 Q. Do you know what TOMIS stands for?
- 18 A. Tennessee Offender Management Information
- 19 System.
- Q. Going to Page 39.
- 21 A. Thirty-nine, did you say?
- Q. It's 39, yes. I did see one mention of
- 23 Trousdale. Do you see that?
- 24 A. Yes. Uh-huh.
- Q. It says that at Trousdale, the health

- 1 services staff had not entered any serious accidents or
- 2 injuries on the accidents screen in TOMIS?
- 3 A. That's right.
- Q. Tell me what that means.
- 5 A. That means that at Trousdale, during our time
- 6 at Trousdale in reviewing accidents and injuries, we
- 7 found that staff did not enter almost a month's worth of
- 8 accident data into the TOMIS system. Or it was more
- 9 than one month, I believe. We found that they had not,
- 10 as they're required by the department, entered this
- 11 information into the information management system.
- 12 Q. So the finding related to their -- to
- 13 Trousdale's failure to put into the accidents screen of
- 14 TOMIS information on injuries or accidents?
- 15 A. The finding was against the department, and
- 16 Trousdale was one of the facilities that we found a
- 17 problem at. We found, you know, several problems at
- 18 various facilities related to this. But at specifically
- 19 Trousdale, we found that staff had not entered serious
- 20 accident injury information for several months into the
- 21 system.
- 22 Q. And so there -- I did not -- and you can look
- 23 through it, but I did not see anything about a finding
- 24 about them not documenting serious accidents or
- 25 incidents at Trousdale, it was just about them not

- 1 placing it into the accidents screen on TOMIS; is that
- 2 correct?
- 3 MS. HERZFELD: Object to the form.
- 4 THE WITNESS: The finding isn't directly at
- 5 Trousdale that we noted in observation that supports the
- 6 conclusion that we drew; whereas, the department did not
- 7 ensure that all the facilities were entering information
- 8 as required.
- 9 BY MS. POLLY:
- 10 Q. Was the observation at Trousdale that they
- 11 didn't enter the information on the TOMIS accident
- 12 screen or that they didn't do documentation at all of
- 13 the accident or incident? In other words, you're not
- 14 finding they didn't document an incident, you're finding
- 15 that they didn't document an incident in TOMIS; is that
- 16 correct?
- MS. HERZFELD: Object to the form.
- 18 THE WITNESS: Correct. Yes, they had the
- 19 paper records on file and they did not enter the
- 20 information into the Tennessee Offender Management
- 21 System.
- 22 BY MS. POLLY:
- Q. And if you go to Page 42, your management's
- 24 comments. That's a comment from the department of
- 25 correction?

- 1 A. That's correct.
- Q. And they concur in part?
- 3 A. They do.
- 4 Q. And they say: All deaths in custody have
- 5 been reported in accordance with statutory requirements.
- 6 A. They do say that.
- 7 Q. Do you agree with that?
- 8 A. I don't believe that we found all were
- 9 reported. And I think we mentioned that later in the
- 10 report in another finding.
- 11 Q. Finding 4 is on Page 43.
- 12 A. Uh-huh, yes.
- 13 Q. It says: The department did not accurately
- 14 record inmate's causes of death in the Tennessee
- 15 offender management information system, which impacted
- 16 the accuracy of the death information in the statistical
- 17 abstract. Did I read that correctly?
- 18 A. You did.
- 19 Q. In Finding 4, do you see any observation
- 20 regarding Trousdale?
- 21 A. I do not believe the incidents we found
- 22 involved Trousdale.
- Q. And in Finding 4, is the issue, again, just
- 24 one of documentation in TOMIS?
- 25 A. Correct. Well, I guess it's incorrectly --

- 1 correctly and accurately reporting that information in
- 2 their statistical abstract as well.
- Q. And the statistical abstract is something to
- 4 which the department of correction has access?
- 5 A. It's published by the department of
- 6 correction to provide the public with information on
- 7 data within prisons.
- 8 Q. It is not published by CoreCivic?
- 9 A. It is not.
- 10 Q. Finding 5 is on Page 46. And it says:
- 11 Department management did not ensure state and CoreCivic
- 12 facility staff followed incident reporting policies,
- 13 entered incident information accurately into TOMIS and
- 14 maintained supporting documentation for incidents as
- 15 required.
- 16 A. Correct.
- 17 Q. Is the issue here, again, one of entering
- 18 information into TOMIS in accordance with department of
- 19 correction policy?
- 20 A. It's entering information in TOMIS and it's
- 21 also accurately capturing information that took place in
- 22 incidents, actually documenting the incident itself
- 23 also. That's the part about maintaining supporting
- 24 documentation of the incidents.
- Q. If you look on Page 47, am I correct that the

- 1 findings relate to things like not entering an incident
- 2 within eight hours?
- 3 A. Uh-huh.
- 4 Q. Not timely holding a disciplinary hearing,
- 5 and then again, not entering all required information
- 6 into TOMIS?
- 7 A. And it's also not having incidents
- 8 consistently match descriptions of them.
- 9 Q. So is the issue here that there might be a
- 10 detailed incident report that goes over what happened in
- 11 a particular incident, and then what is in the incident
- 12 report and what is entered into TOMIS sometimes do not
- 13 align?
- 14 A. Correct.
- 15 Q. Finding 6 is on Page 50. It says: The
- 16 department did not ensure that state and CoreCivic
- 17 correctional facilities and health services staff
- 18 entered all serious accidents, injuries, and illnesses
- in TOMIS in accordance with the department policy.
- 20 A. Right.
- 21 Q. So here, the issue is not about failing to
- 22 report incidents, it's about not entering the
- 23 information in TOMIS; is that correct?
- 24 A. Correct.
- 25 O. And when we talk about that TOMIS accidents

- 1 screen, is this it, right here?
- 2 A. That is a picture of it, I believe, yes.
- Q. Is it just a one-page screen or are there
- 4 more pages that I'm not seeing?
- 5 A. I believe that's the one specific screen that
- 6 it's talking to, but some of that information may be in
- 7 other screens as well. Part of other screens. But that
- 8 is the specific screen in TOMIS, yeah.
- 9 Q. And do you see here where, under Finding 6,
- 10 it does contain an observation about Trousdale?
- 11 A. Yes.
- 12 Q. If you go to the next page, Page 51, it says:
- 13 Management and staff at both facilities stated they were
- 14 unaware of the requirement to enter accidents,
- 15 illnesses, and traumatic injuries into TOMIS. And it
- 16 goes on to mention turnover in certain positions?
- 17 A. Yes.
- 18 Q. Was that your understanding?
- 19 A. Yes.
- 20 Q. So was it that -- so is it fair to say
- 21 CoreCivic -- well, let me back up. Is it fair to say
- 22 that in your observation of Trousdale, they were
- 23 reporting incidents, they just weren't putting it into
- 24 the accident screen in TOMIS, and they said it was due
- 25 to just a misunderstanding or an error in knowing what

- 1 they were required to do?
- MS. HERZFELD: Object to the form.
- 3 THE WITNESS: I believe that was part of it
- 4 and I believe that some staff had turned over also.
- 5 BY MS. POLLY:
- 6 Q. Were you assured that appropriate people had
- 7 been educated on entering incidents into TOMIS and that
- 8 it would be corrected going forward?
- 9 A. Yes, we were.
- MS. HERZFELD: Object to the form.
- 11 BY MS. POLLY:
- 12 Q. Did you have any reason to disagree with the
- 13 statement that at Trousdale they weren't doing it
- 14 because they didn't understand they were supposed to do
- 15 it?
- 16 A. Did I have a disagreement with that?
- 17 Q. Yeah, or do you have any reason to disagree
- 18 or disbelieve what they said, that they didn't
- 19 understand they were supposed to do it?
- 20 A. No, I believe that was part of the case.
- 21 That's the explanation that they provided us.
- 22 Q. Finding 7 is on Page 56. And it says: The
- 23 department of correction and the department of finance
- 24 and administration strategic technology solutions did
- 25 not implement effective internal controls in two areas,

- 1 increasing the risk of errors or data loss. Did I read
- 2 that correctly?
- A. Correct.
- Q. Does this have anything to do with actions by
- 5 CoreCivic or CoreCivic employees, or is this more
- 6 directed toward the department of correction and the
- 7 department of finance and administration?
- 8 A. This is between the department and the --
- 9 yeah, the department of finance and administration and
- 10 the division of strategic technology solutions.
- 11 Q. Finding 8 is on Page 57. It says: The
- 12 department published inaccurate and incomplete inmate
- 13 incident data in its fiscal year 2018 statistical
- 14 abstract. Did I read that correctly?
- 15 A. Correct.
- 16 O. In this section there are no observations
- 17 with respect to Trousdale; is that correct?
- 18 A. I believe so, that's correct.
- 19 Q. Is the issue that the comptroller is pointing
- 20 out here one of documentation?
- 21 A. This is information that is provided to the
- 22 public that the department of corrections publishes.
- 23 And it's about publishing inaccurate information about
- 24 prisons, which could be misleading to not only the
- 25 legislature, but to also the public.

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- 1 Q. Was the information published exclusively by
- 2 the department of correction and not by CoreCivic?
- 3 A. Correct.
- 4 Q. Is the issue about publication of
- 5 information?
- 6 A. It's not accurately reporting data
- 7 information.
- 8 Q. So it's a data issue?
- 9 A. It's a data issue, correct.
- 10 Q. Finding 9 is on Page 82.
- 11 A. Eighty-two, you said?
- 12 Q. Yes. And it says: Management did not ensure
- 13 that state and CoreCivic correctional facilities' staff
- 14 followed policies and procedures for investigating
- 15 sexual abuse and sexual harassment allegations and
- 16 documented their results. Did I read that correctly?
- 17 A. You did.
- 18 Q. Is the issue here one of documentation?
- MS. HERZFELD: Object to the form.
- 20 THE WITNESS: I believe, yes.
- 21 BY MS. POLLY:
- Q. And the issue was that PREA allegations
- 23 weren't entered into a PREA allegation system in a
- 24 timely way?
- 25 A. Let me double-check. Some of it was a

- 1 misunderstanding or a question about the difference
- 2 between unsubstantiated and substantiated cases. But
- 3 yeah, I guess overall, is it documenting the
- 4 investigation results and processes and entering
- 5 information timely.
- 6 Q. So the finding of the comptroller was about
- 7 documentation, and then even more specifically, timely
- 8 documentation into a PREA system?
- 9 A. Yeah, into the PREA system correctly.
- 10 Q. What is PREA?
- 11 A. PREA is the prison -- what is it? It's the
- 12 Prison Rape Elimination Act. It's a federal program.
- Q. So are there certain requirements on
- 14 documenting prison rape allegations?
- 15 A. Correct.
- 16 Q. Finding 10 is on Page 96. Does this one have
- 17 anything to do with CoreCivic?
- 18 A. No, this is not to do with CoreCivic. This
- 19 is on the department.
- Q. Finding 11 is on Page 98.
- 21 A. Uh-huh, yes.
- 22 Q. This one deals with Century and Corizon; is
- 23 that correct?
- 24 A. That is correct.
- Q. Who are they?

- 1 A. Those are the medical providers for -- that
- 2 the department contracts with for medical and mental
- 3 health.
- 4 Q. Do you know if they have any affiliation at
- 5 all with CoreCivic or are they separate from CoreCivic?
- A. I believe they are now separate from
- 7 CoreCivic because CoreCivic supplies their own nurses
- 8 and medical providers.
- 9 Q. And so Finding 11 doesn't have anything to do
- 10 with CoreCivic?
- 11 A. No, it would not.
- 12 Q. Finding 12 is on Page 100. It says:
- 13 CoreCivic and state-managed correctional facilities did
- 14 not ensure that staff placed the required medical and
- 15 mental health documents in the inmate files or completed
- 16 the required documents in accordance with department
- 17 policy. Did I read that correctly?
- 18 A. Yes.
- 19 Q. I'm going to Page 101. I'm looking at Chart
- 20 22. Am I right, the issue here on Finding 12 is
- 21 documentation and documenting things in inmate medical
- 22 charts?
- 23 A. Correct.
- Q. Tell me what Chart 22 is.
- 25 A. Let's see, this is the items that were

- 1 missing from the medical administration records,
- 2 documentation of initial drug screenings. This is also
- 3 physical and mental health exams; mental health
- 4 evaluations; physicians orders of medications; health
- 5 treatment plans; and health classification forms. These
- 6 are all supposed to be within the inmate files per
- 7 inmate and documented. And this information was not
- 8 found in the files and documented as it should be.
- 9 Q. Do you know how many inmate files you looked
- 10 at to get the information in Chart 22?
- 11 A. We have it in the methodology section, but it
- 12 looks like we did a random sample of 294 inmates from a
- 13 total population of 726. That's overall.
- 14 Q. So on Chart 22, where you've got those little
- 15 dashes, does that mean there were no issues?
- MS. HERZFELD: Object to the form.
- 17 THE WITNESS: I believe that means there was
- 18 no information. Let's see, number of errors of
- 19 noncompliance type correctional facility. I quess,
- 20 yeah, there was no errors, then.
- 21 BY MS. POLLY:
- Q. So just to be clear, on Chart 22, a dash
- 23 means there were no errors?
- A. I believe that's correct, yes.
- Q. So in this chart, it shows that Trousdale

- 1 didn't have any issues in those hundreds of inmate files
- 2 with respect to documentation on physical and mental
- 3 health exams, mental health evaluations, physicians
- 4 orders for medications, mental health treatment plans,
- 5 and health classification forms?
- 6 MS. HERZFELD: Object to the form.
- 7 THE WITNESS: Yes.
- 8 BY MS. POLLY:
- 9 O. And there was one issue in those hundreds of
- 10 files on a missing initial drug screening?
- MS. HERZFELD: Object to the form.
- 12 THE WITNESS: There was one. And there was
- 13 13 problems with the medical administration records,
- 14 which is the MARs.
- 15 BY MS. POLLY:
- 16 Q. It says medical administration records.
- 17 Could that be medication administration records? Is
- 18 that intended to show when inmates get their
- 19 medications, it's supposed to be documented?
- 20 A. Yes. That is the nurse's basic patient
- 21 record. And they are to record the actual time, date,
- 22 each time the inmate gets a medication.
- Q. And so Finding 12 is intended to address
- 24 medical documentation issues?
- 25 A. Yes.

- 1 Q. So the issue is not that inmates weren't
- 2 given their medication, that's not your finding; your
- 3 finding is that there were 13 places in these hundreds
- 4 of charts where it was not fully completed, the
- 5 medication the inmates received?
- 6 MS. HERZFELD: Object to the form.
- 7 THE WITNESS: Yes, incorrectly or did not
- 8 note it. And I will say, if it's not noted, part of the
- 9 problem is then we can't verify that the inmate did get
- 10 their medicine or not.
- 11 BY MS. POLLY:
- 12 Q. Finding 13 is on Page 106.
- MS. HERZFELD: Erin, I am going to interrupt
- 14 you for just a second. Just so you know, I have a call
- 15 I have to take at 2:00.
- 16 MS. POLLY: I will be done by then, Tricia,
- 17 but thank you.
- 18 BY MS. POLLY:
- 19 Q. Do you see Finding 13?
- 20 A. Okay, it's on Page 106, yes.
- Q. Explain this to me.
- 22 A. This happened while we were at Hardeman
- 23 County. And CoreCivic was -- is beginning an electronic
- 24 MAR system in storing their inmate records or the nurse
- 25 records online using an e-MAR, electronic MARs, instead

- 1 of using the paper MARs. Most of the nursing community
- 2 these days use electronic MARs. So they are
- 3 transitioning to a new system using the electronic MARs.
- 4 And the day that we arrived in Hardeman
- 5 County, they lost access to the internet. So basically,
- 6 the system went down and they did not have access to
- 7 their patient's MARs. And that would be noted as a
- 8 serious problem because then they would not be able to
- 9 access needed records for their inmates. So this was --
- 10 I believe it took them several hours to get all the
- 11 information back online. And they did not have -- the
- 12 CoreCivic did not have a backup plan to handle that
- 13 situation.
- Q. So the issue here wasn't inmates getting
- 15 medications, it was just having a backup for that time
- 16 when it happens where the electronic medication
- 17 administration record system goes down?
- MS. HERZFELD: Objection to form.
- 19 THE WITNESS: Well, it is related to giving
- 20 medication since you need to have the MARs to be able to
- 21 record it and to know the dosage and to know when to
- 22 give medications.
- 23 BY MS. POLLY:
- Q. That's fair. But still, the issue is just
- one about a backup system for the electronic medical

- 1 records?
- 2 A. Correct, they do not have --
- 3 MS. HERZFELD: Object to the form.
- 4 THE WITNESS: They do not have a backup
- 5 system in place or a backup paper file in place to be
- 6 able to access or get quick access to the MARs.
- 7 BY MS. POLLY:
- 8 Q. I want to ask you about Observation 6. It's
- 9 on Page 130.
- 10 A. Okay.
- 11 Q. So the finding here is --
- 12 A. We have an observation -- are you on Page
- 13 130?
- Q. Excuse me, an observation. Yeah, my
- 15 apologies. The observation here is that: CoreCivic and
- 16 state-run facilities are operating with minimal staff
- 17 resulting in increased staff overtime and/or the
- 18 temporary closure of non-critical posts. Did I read
- 19 that correctly?
- 20 A. You did.
- 21 Q. In doing the audit of the department of
- 22 correction, what did you learn about staffing in the
- 23 corrections environment?
- 24 A. We learned a lot about it. What
- 25 specifically?

- 1 O. Are the facilities in Tennessee overstaffed
- 2 or understaffed? Is staffing easy in a corrections
- 3 environment, challenging in a corrections environment?
- 4 MS. HERZFELD: Object to the form.
- 5 THE WITNESS: Well, we learned obviously that
- 6 staffing facilities are difficult. The majority of the
- 7 facilities we see are understaffed.
- 8 BY MS. POLLY:
- 9 Q. Going to Page 10 under repeated as
- 10 observations. It says: All of Tennessee's facilities
- 11 are operating with minimal staff.
- 12 A. Yes.
- 13 Q. Did I read that one correctly?
- 14 A. You did.
- 15 Q. And despite those challenges, on Page 12, the
- 16 comptroller audit says: While CoreCivic and state
- 17 correctional facilities ensured that staff covered
- 18 critical posts, both the CoreCivic and state facilities
- 19 are experiencing difficulties with hiring a sufficient
- 20 number of correctional officers. Did I read that
- 21 correctly?
- 22 A. You did.
- 23 Q. Did the comptroller find in the audit that
- 24 CoreCivic was appropriately covering all critical posts?
- 25 A. In the staffing rosters that we did look at,

- 1 we did not see critical posts unmanned. But we did note
- 2 significant overtime in the majority of the facilities
- 3 that we visited. And I think we listed that in the
- 4 chart.
- 5 Q. We jump ahead to Page 129. Do you see where
- 6 is says CoreCivic had improved its critical posts
- 7 staffing?
- 8 A. Yes.
- 9 Q. And then it says: Both state and CoreCivic
- 10 facilities covered critical posts.
- 11 A. Correct.
- 12 Q. So is the take away here that the Tennessee
- 13 Department of Correction facilities are not fully
- 14 staffed --
- MS. HERZFELD: Object to the form.
- 16 BY MS. POLLY:
- 17 Q. -- but that staffing is challenging and that
- 18 all critical posts are staffed?
- MS. HERZFELD: Objection.
- 20 THE WITNESS: I'm not sure. You're mixing
- 21 some things here. So can you restate the question
- 22 please?
- 23 BY MS. POLLY:
- 24 Q. Sure. Did the audit conclude that CoreCivic
- 25 was making efforts to staff all positions?

- 1 MS. HERZFELD: Object to the form.
- THE WITNESS: The response to the other one
- 3 is compared to the prior audit where we had a finding
- 4 and critical posts were not covered. We did not find
- 5 the same result this time. So it appeared, based on the
- 6 data that we looked at, that the posts were now covered
- 7 and they provided the rosters and other stuff so they
- 8 had the information. They made corrections from the
- 9 first audit, from a prior audit.
- 10 BY MS. POLLY:
- 11 Q. Thank you for saying that more artfully than
- 12 I asked it.
- 13 A. Okay. And then we go on to say that, you
- 14 know, as we've seen the posts that were covered, you
- 15 know, being understaffed is having an affect in some
- 16 respects. They are closing -- having to close other
- 17 non-critical posts and use staff, pull staff from other
- 18 positions to ensure they covered -- that critical posts
- 19 are covered.
- Q. There was no finding that any of the
- 21 Tennessee Department of Correction facilities, and
- 22 specifically Trousdale, weren't trying to be
- 23 appropriately staffed?
- MS. HERZFELD: Object to the form.
- 25 THE WITNESS: There was no finding that said

- 1 that they were not trying, correct.
- 2 BY MS. POLLY:
- 3 Q. Did you believe they were trying?
- A. I do believe they were trying, yes.
- 5 Q. Finding 15 is on Page 160. It says: State
- 6 and CoreCivic facility personnel did not perform inmate
- 7 orientation within three days of arrival at the
- 8 facility, or did not consistently maintain assigned
- 9 orientation acknowledgment form in the inmate
- 10 institutional file. Explain this one to me, if you
- 11 would.
- 12 A. It is a department of correction policy that
- 13 as an inmate enters a facility, is transferred from one
- 14 facility to another facility, that they are to -- the
- 15 inmate is to be provided an orientation form within
- 16 three days of arrival, that they are to complete an
- 17 orientation into the facility within three days. And
- 18 they maintain this by having the inmate sign the
- 19 orientation form and packet.
- 20 And we -- in the files that we reviewed, we
- 21 found instances where either the orientation was not
- 22 done within three days of arriving at the facility or it
- 23 wasn't clear when the orientation was given. And that
- 24 would be also consistently maintaining the signed
- 25 orientation acknowledgment form. Without that form in

- 1 the file, we cannot verify that orientation was provided
- 2 or that it was provided within the time.
- 3 Q. Well, I jumped ahead to Finding 16 and I
- 4 skipped Finding 15. So we'll go back to that. But
- 5 that's helpful, thank you. On Finding 16, was there any
- 6 observation specifically related to Trousdale?
- 7 A. It looks like it was not. Looks like it was
- 8 Northeast, Northwest, Turney Center and Whiteville.
- 9 Q. Back up and go to 15. It's on Page 160.
- 10 A. Yeah.
- 11 Q. CoreCivic correctional facility personnel do
- 12 not consistently administer required inmate screenings
- 13 that are used to prevent sexual abuse in correctional
- 14 facilities. Did I read that properly?
- 15 A. Correct.
- 16 O. Tell me about that one.
- 17 A. That is a requirement, federal requirement of
- 18 the Prison Rape Elimination Act. When an inmate is
- 19 transferred or brought into a correctional facility,
- 20 they are to have a PREA screening done within a certain
- 21 amount of time. An initial screening and then there is
- 22 a 30-day follow-up screening. And this is to identify
- 23 either a potential rapist or victims, and so that their
- 24 needs can be met and separated and be addressed.
- Q. Go up to Page 158. You've got some audit

- 1 objectives and audit conclusions. Do you see those?
- 2 A. Correct.
- 3 Q. And it looks like at the department of
- 4 correction facilities, the comptroller found that the
- 5 facility staff completed the inmate admissions
- 6 assessment forms?
- 7 A. Correct.
- 8 Q. The comptroller found that inmates received a
- 9 classification hearing as required by department policy?
- 10 A. Correct.
- 11 Q. The comptroller found that in either the
- 12 inmate institutional files or in TOMIS, the department
- 13 provided inmates with 48-hour notice of an upcoming
- 14 hearing?
- 15 A. Correct.
- 16 Q. And here on No. 4 audit objective, we have an
- 17 observation regarding Trousdale?
- 18 A. Uh-huh, yes.
- 19 Q. It says that six offender classification
- 20 summaries were kept on a shelf rather than in the
- 21 inmate's institutional file?
- 22 A. Correct.
- Q. So that's a documentation placement concern?
- 24 A. Yes.
- MS. HERZFELD: Object to the form.

- 1 BY MS. POLLY:
- 2 Q. The comptroller found that the correctional
- 3 facility staff placed the risk needs assessments in the
- 4 inmate institutional files?
- 5 A. Correct.
- Q. And then here is the concern that you
- 7 mentioned with PREA screenings not being done within a
- 8 particular period of time?
- 9 A. Correct.
- 10 Q. And there's no specific observation regarding
- 11 Trousdale on that?
- 12 A. There are no issues we marked on the 72-hour
- 13 screenings, but for Trousdale, this is on Page 161, PREA
- 14 screening not performed. We found four incidents where
- 15 it was not performed timely, the 30-day screening. And
- 16 we found two incidents that were not performed at all.
- 17 Q. I'm going to jump ahead a little bit because
- 18 I want to be done by 2:00 for Ms. Herzfeld. Look on
- 19 Page 167. Observation 10 discusses Trousdale performing
- 20 minimally required random drug screenings?
- 21 A. Correct.
- 22 Q. If you would look at the following page, Page
- 23 168. Am I correct that at Trousdale, that observation
- 24 is related to a period of time in either March or April
- 25 of 2019?

- 1 A. Yes.
- Q. Was the issue related to a new employee
- 3 coming in the position?
- A. That's what we were told, yes.
- 5 Q. In the audit and the investigation that the
- 6 comptroller did, did you look into any aspect of the
- 7 religious life of inmates there at Trousdale?
- 8 A. We did not.
- 9 Q. Did you look into religious access or
- 10 religious opportunities for inmates?
- 11 A. That was not one of our objectives.
- 12 Q. Did you look into religious celebrations or
- 13 religious meals that were provided to inmates?
- 14 A. That was not one of our objectives.
- 15 Q. Did you look into religious materials, like
- 16 books or clothing?
- 17 A. That was not part of our objectives.
- 18 Q. And am I correct that in the audit, the
- 19 comptroller didn't look into facility violence at any of
- 20 the department of correction facilities?
- 21 A. We looked into incident reporting in the
- 22 reporting of violence.
- 23 Q. So the issue was one of documentation, but
- 24 not one of efforts to prevent violence or responses to
- 25 violence?

- 1 MS. HERZFELD: Object to the form.
- 2 THE WITNESS: The record of their responses
- 3 to violence is in the incident report. In that way,
- 4 it's related. The purpose of being able -- I mean,
- 5 that's our way of being able, and basically the
- 6 department's way to understand what happened and
- 7 occurred during an incident. And if the incident isn't
- 8 properly documented, it's very difficult to get an
- 9 understanding of what was going on in the violence.
- 10 BY MS. POLLY:
- 11 Q. When the comptroller did this audit, are you
- 12 all primarily looking at documentation and whether
- 13 things are documented as they should be pursuant to
- 14 department of correction policy?
- MS. HERZFELD: Object to the form.
- 16 THE WITNESS: A good bit of what we look at
- 17 is how they document things. But it can be more -- I
- 18 guess it's not just limited to how they document and are
- 19 they documented correctly, it's the implications that it
- 20 may have also, is whether it's important or the level of
- 21 importance to it.
- 22 BY MS. POLLY:
- 23 Q. Through the audit, did the comptroller
- 24 examine access to health care at one facility versus
- 25 another?

- 1 A. Yes.
- Q. Was that based on documentation?
- 3 A. It was based on the requirements by the
- 4 department of correction policy. And we observed within
- 5 the areas whether or not there was access, free access
- 6 to health forms and that the instructions for obtaining
- 7 health care were properly posted.
- 8 Q. Was there a finding by the comptroller that
- 9 Trousdale did not appropriately handle inmate-on-inmate
- 10 assaults?
- 11 A. I don't recall that we have a specific
- 12 finding. No, we don't have a specific finding to
- 13 Trousdale alone on their handling of assaults, no.
- 14 Q. Was there a finding regarding Trousdale's
- 15 handling of contraband in the facility?
- 16 A. No, that was not one of our objectives.
- 17 Q. Was there a finding regarding Trousdale's
- 18 handling of violence in the facility?
- 19 A. Again, that was not one of our objectives in
- 20 that sense. No, we do not have a finding of that
- 21 nature, no.
- 22 Q. Was there a finding that Trousdale did not
- 23 investigate incidents of physical violence or assaults?
- A. No, there was not.
- Q. Was there a finding that Trousdale did not

- 1 appropriately provide inmates access to health care?
- 2 A. I don't believe there was a finding on that,
- 3 no.
- 4 Q. Was there a finding that Trousdale didn't
- 5 take steps to protect inmates and employees?
- 6 MS. HERZFELD: Object to the form.
- 7 THE WITNESS: That was not an objective. We
- 8 did not have a specific finding, answering that
- 9 question, no.
- 10 BY MS. POLLY:
- 11 Q. Was there a finding that CoreCivic didn't
- 12 take steps to prevent contraband from getting into the
- 13 facility?
- 14 A. No, there was not.
- 15 Q. Was there a finding that Trousdale did not
- 16 take steps to appropriately prevent prison rape?
- MS. HERZFELD: Object to the form.
- 18 THE WITNESS: Not other than what was in the
- 19 report, which I don't believe was a finding against
- 20 Trousdale, no.
- MS. POLLY: I don't think I have any more
- 22 questions. I am going to check with Joe. Tricia, I
- 23 know you need to leave in three minutes, so I will be
- 24 brief.
- MS. HERZFELD: Tom, do you think you're going

	1 490 110
1	Page 140 to have any questions?
2	MR. AUMANN: I think one question, that's it.
3	MS. POLLY: I don't have anything further.
4	Thank you for taking the time to talk to me. I really
5	appreciate it.
6	EXAMINATION BY MR. AUMANN:
7	Q. Mr. Finamore, just briefly, did you find that
8	throughout the audit process in both 2017 and 2020, the
9	department of correction and its employees were
10	cooperative in answering your auditors' questions and
11	providing them with information and documents you needed
12	to complete the audit?
13	A. Yes, they were very helpful and cooperative.
14	MR. AUMANN: That's all I have.
15	MS. HERZFELD: I don't have any follow-up.
16	MS. POLLY: Thank you all.
17	MS. HERZFELD: Thanks.
18	MR. AUMANN: Thank you.
19	FURTHER DEPONENT SAITH NOT.
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1	Page 141 CERTIFICATE		
2			
3	STATE OF TENNESSEE ) ) SS.		
4	COUNTY OF DAVIDSON )		
5	I, CAROLE K. BRIGGS, Licensed Court Reporter		
6	within and for the State of Tennessee, do hereby certify		
7	that the above deposition was reported by me and that		
8	the foregoing pages of the transcript is a true and		
9	accurate record to the best of my knowledge, skills, and		
10	ability.		
11	I further certify that I am not a relative,		
12	counsel or attorney of either party nor employed by any		
13	of the parties in this case or otherwise interested in		
14	the event of this action.		
15	IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto affixed my		
16	official hand on this 6th day of July 2021.		
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23	Tennessee License No. 345		
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	<b>014498</b> 68:9	<b>15</b> 7:8 22:11,14 75:25 76:3 91:17	
Exhibits	<b>014907</b> 62:8	95:24 105:24 108:25 132:5 133:4 9	
<b>Exhibit 2</b> 11:7,9 16:17	<b>014908</b> 63:8	<b>158</b> 133:25	
Exhibit 3 16:20,22,23	<b>015330</b> 67:2	<b>16</b> 77:3,6 133:3,5	
<b>Exhibit 5</b> 42:17,18 53:16	<b>016008</b> 77:4	<b>160</b> 132:5 133:9	
<b>Exhibit 6</b> 54:5,6	<b>016009</b> 78:11	<b>161</b> 135:13	
Exhibit 7 55:23,24	<b>016160</b> 43:6 44:4	<b>167</b> 135:19	
<b>Exhibit 8</b> 58:5,8,16	<b>016162</b> 49:13	<b>168</b> 135:23	
Exhibit 9 62:4,7,11	<b>016163</b> 50:2	<b>17</b> 6:4 79:4,7	
Exhibit 10 65:7,13	<b>029720</b> 81:4	<b>18</b> 80:25 81:1,4 111:24	
<b>Exhibit 11</b> 66:24 67:2 72:1,6		<b>19</b> 82:15,17 111:24	
<b>Exhibit 12</b> 68:9,10,12	1	<b>1995</b> 90:11	
<b>Exhibit 13</b> 70:12,14 72:12 73:9	<b>1</b> 8:5,14,15 107:22 108:5 109:6		
<b>Exhibit 14</b> 72:24 73:2,16	<b>1/7</b> 70:23	2	
<b>Exhibit 15</b> 75:25 76:3	<b>10</b> 65:7,13 90:9 98:5 122:16 129:9	2 11.7 0 16.17 100.17 110.10 20	
<b>Exhibit 16</b> 77:3,6	135:19	<b>2</b> 11:7,9 16:17 109:17 110:19,20 <b>20</b> 87:5,9,11	
<b>Exhibit 17</b> 79:4,6,7	<b>10/1/18</b> 46:4		
Exhibit 18 80:25 81:1,4	<b>10/1/2018</b> 65:18	<b>2017</b> 12:16 14:23 16:14 22:18 26:3 28:18 55:1 56:6 59:5 70:4 83:20,23 87:1,3,5 102:6,21 103:13 104:7,9 105:3 110:23	
Exhibit 19 82:15,17	<b>10/31/2018</b> 65:18		
Exhibit 20 87:9,11	<b>100</b> 123:12	111:24 140:8	
	<b>101</b> 123:19	<b>2018</b> 58:18 62:12 64:13 67:8	
<b>\$</b>	<b>106</b> 126:12,20	68:18 104:8 110:25 120:13	
<b>\$25</b> 64:10	<b>10th</b> 64:13	<b>2019</b> 44:8 46:2 49:16 70:20 73:19 76:2 111:1 135:25 <b>2020</b> 26:10,13,25 28:19 32:16 34:6,8,17 35:21 36:11 38:20 39:5, 6 68:25 75:22 81:9,15 83:18 87:1 91:7 100:7,19 102:7 105:10,11,18 107:13 140:8	
<b>\$250</b> 64:9	<b>11</b> 66:24 67:2 72:1,6 107:20 122:20 123:9		
0	<b>11th</b> 56:6 102:21		
<b>010081</b> 82:16	<b>12</b> 68:9,10,12 73:7 123:12,20 125:23 129:15		
<b>011758</b> 70:15	<b>12/31/18</b> 46:4	<b>2021</b> 6:4	
<b>012355</b> 65:10	<b>129</b> 130:5	<b>2024</b> 33:23,24	
<b>012403</b> 53:25	<b>12th</b> 103:13	<b>22</b> 123:20,24 124:10,14,22	
<b>012554</b> 73:4,17	<b>13</b> 70:12,14 72:12 73:7,9 125:13	<b>24</b> 33:21 109:17	
<b>013292</b> 56:1	126:3,12,19	<b>26</b> 67:8 68:18	
<b>013295</b> 79:7	<b>130</b> 128:9,13	<b>27th</b> 36:10	
<b>013491</b> 75:25	<b>13203</b> 101:13	<b>294</b> 124:12	
<b>013524</b> 58:8,13,17	<b>13207</b> 101:13	<b>2:00</b> 126:15 135:18	
<b>013562</b> 87:10	<b>13292</b> 57:22 <b>14</b> 72:24 73:2,16 91:16		
	14 12.27 13.2,10 31.10		

Index: \$25..2:00

	<b>72-hour</b> 135:12	114:1 117:18,25 118:14	
3	<b>726</b> 124:13	accomplish 24:8	
<b>3</b> 16:20,22,23 112:3,8	<b>7:00</b> 98:7	accordance 22:7 115:5 116:18	
<b>30</b> 31:25 32:1	<b>7th</b> 70:20	117:19 123:16	
<b>30(b)(6)</b> 11:18		accountability 21:9,21	
<b>30-day</b> 133:22 135:15	8	accreditation 94:14,20	
<b>30th</b> 33:24 73:18	<b>8</b> 58:5,8,16 120:11	accuracy 115:16	
<b>31st</b> 44:8 46:2 49:16	<b>8-4-109</b> 32:14	<b>accurate</b> 15:3 69:23 71:8 72:21 81:25 112:4	
<b>39</b> 112:20,22	82 121:10 accurately 68:5 115:13 11		
<b>3rd</b> 81:9	<b>85</b> 110:23	13,21 121:6	
	<b>8:00</b> 98:7	acknowledgment 132:9,25	
4	<b>8:39</b> 83:25	act 44:14 122:12 133:18	
<b>4</b> 26:10,17,18 105:10 115:11,19, 23 134:16	<b>8th</b> 58:18 62:12	<b>action</b> 32:2,5,18 44:17 50:3 55:15 81:8 82:12	
<b>40</b> 112:3	9	actions 28:6 32:4 120:4	
<b>42</b> 114:23	0.00.4.7.44.404.40	activities 107:23	
<b>43</b> 115:11	<b>9</b> 62:4,7,11 121:10	actual 58:1 69:25 70:7 125:21	
<b>45</b> 66:14	94.96 111:1	actuality 45:20	
<b>45-day</b> 66:12	<b>95</b> 111:19	added 28:10,14 30:13	
<b>46</b> 116:10	<b>96</b> 111:19 122:16	<b>addition</b> 51:19,21	
<b>47</b> 116:25	<b>96.96</b> 110:25	additional 14:1 32:22 34:25 96:7	
<b>48-hour</b> 134:13	<b>98</b> 122:20	address 74:15 101:21 125:23	
<b>4th</b> 76:2 78:12	9:02 6:2,4	<b>addressed</b> 29:23 55:12,14 75:7 106:5,14,16 133:24	
5	A	adequate 107:23	
	<b>a.m.</b> 6:2,4	adhered 21:16	
<b>5</b> 42:17,18 53:16 116:10	ability 78:2 99:23 100:7 106:7	adherence 21:6	
<b>50</b> 117:15	108:2 112:4	adjusting 59:11	
<b>51</b> 118:12	absence 72:2	adjustment 57:11	
<b>56</b> 119:22	absolutely 16:22	adjustments 25:22 26:1,3 27:12	
<b>57</b> 120:11	<b>abstract</b> 115:17 116:2,3 120:14	administer 133:12	
6	<b>abuse</b> 121:15 133:13	administering 109:9	
<b>6</b> 54:5,6 117:15 118:9 128:8	acceptable 17:9,10,16 access 41:25 97:1 98:10 116:4	<b>administration</b> 119:24 120:7,9 124:1 125:13,16,17 127:17	
<b>6:00</b> 98:7	127:5,6,9 128:6 136:9 137:24 138:5 139:1	admissions 134:5	
	138:5 139:1 accident 113:8,20 114:11,13 118:24	<b>admit</b> 10:20	
7		advance 7:23 9:4,14 14:23	
<b>7</b> 55:23,24 119:22	accidents 113:1,2,6,13,14,24	advice 59:22 60:7 65:1	

advised 49:25 assistant 44:16 63:25 75:23 appeared 131:5 advocacy 102:25 103:6,9 104:20 **appears** 44:6 52:16 102:22 109:4 Association 94:15 **affect** 131:15 **apple** 8:13 assumed 98:24 affecting 108:1 appreciative 57:21 assumption 100:10 affiliation 123:4 appropriately 22:7 129:24 assurance 48:24 131:23 138:9 139:1,16 agencies 19:18 35:16 assured 119:6 approval 57:12 agency 19:21 23:14,15,18 35:19 attached 57:16 64:5 69:14,23 88:3 93:19,20 94:4 99:13 **approved** 25:11 57:4,13 attachment 64:7 65:18 78:10 agency's 93:23 **April** 64:13 102:21 103:13 135:24 79:20 80:19 agree 6:6,8,11,13,17 18:1,11,12 Arbor 90:8 attend 11:12 41:4 59:17 67:21,24 52:20 109:6,15 115:7 68:1 archive 83:10 attention 74:23 **agreed** 52:17 55:5 59:24 61:20 area 12:1 23:6,22 49:11 95:16 72:4 100:25 96:14,20 attorney 6:5 9:1,13 45:17 64:1 agreement 21:5 52:21 53:14 areas 23:2,21 24:3 92:13,15,24 audit 11:21,22 12:22,24 13:1,3, 72:9 93:6 96:16 97:2,3,4 98:10 107:25 19,21 15:14 17:8 19:19 20:3,5,14 agreements 75:18 119:25 138:5 22:25 23:1,4,5,8,12 24:9,10,12, 18,19 26:3,10,13,23 27:1,10,24 agriculture 92:20 arise 72:7 28:2,4,10,18,19,25 29:23,24 ahead 8:3 10:19 20:25 56:5,18 arrested 104:21,22 31:15,17,18,19,20,22,24 33:7,17, 62:10 70:17 82:22 84:16 88:24 19,20,22 34:13 36:7 37:13,18,21, arrival 132:7,16 23 38:14,18,20,22 39:5,6,22 40:8 89:19 101:4,11 130:5 133:3 135:17 arrive 41:4 41:7,18,22 42:1,4 44:22,23,25 45:5,7,9 46:3 47:18,23 48:9 Alex 103:21 104:10,13,17 105:1 arrived 127:4 49:10,19 53:7 55:2 58:1 59:5 60:5 Alexander 103:12 66:6 69:1,4,9,13 70:4 73:11,24 arriving 132:22 75:9 76:12 78:5,20,22 81:16,21, align 117:13 **artfully** 131:11 22 82:8,10,12,13 83:18,20,23 allegation 121:23 84:9 85:2,8,13,14 86:3,7,12 87:25 articles 87:16,20,24 88:2 91:5,20 92:6,9,16,25 94:10, allegations 121:15,22 122:14 arts 12:13 17 95:8 96:6,11 98:25 99:3,10,22 allotted 24:8 100:7,19,24 101:3 102:14,17 asks 90:12 103:8 104:7,8,9 105:10,11,17,21, allowed 25:13 66:14 75:2 99:14, **aspect** 136:6 24 106:11,20,21 107:1,5,14,17,20 15 108:25 128:21 129:16,23 130:24 aspects 27:16 131:3,9 133:25 134:1,16 136:5,18 American 94:14 assaults 138:10,13,23 137:11,23 140:8,12 amount 61:20,21 133:21 assemblies 35:18 audit's 86:24 and/or 92:21 128:17 assembly 24:5 33:16 35:10 audited 33:1,14,15 34:23 39:10 Ann 90:8 106:25 107:2 assess 33:3 64:17 annual 109:18 auditing 20:17 22:13 45:23 assessed 62:3 66:14 88:10 100:1 answering 139:8 140:10 assessment 66:16 93:3 111:5 auditor 7:5 14:1 26:22 68:25 **answers** 76:22 134:6 83:19 102:10,11 anticipate 89:7 assessments 135:3 auditors 25:9 37:15,16,18,22 apologies 128:15 assigned 132:8 56:17 Apparently 46:25

Index: advised..auditors'

auditors' 140:10

**assist** 98:18

**audits** 19:15,17 22:16,19,21 26:7.8 28:8 49:4 53:3 84:24 86:4. 8,13,14,15 87:2 92:12 95:3 102:3, 6.12 103:5

August 56:6

**Aumann** 6:10 8:12,17 9:12,15 10:3 17:12 18:5 29:18 34:18 36:19,25 42:19 47:4 52:6,17,22 57:22 68:14 71:10,12 80:6,22 88:20 89:7,17,23 140:2,6,14,18

authored 105:21

aware 14:17 15:8 17:15 31:16,21 34:4,11 40:7,10 44:13,16 60:6 88:5 106:6,15,18

awareness 10:5

В

bachelor's 12:12 90:16,17,20

**back** 11:6 16:2,25 34:5,12 37:13 50:13 52:15 57:9 58:15 71:22 73:5 84:5 88:25 89:1 105:3,9 118:21 127:11 133:4,9

background 12:11 23:17 69:7 88:2 90:4

backup 127:12,15,25 128:4,5

bag 85:3 **Ball** 91:15

**base** 18:8

**based** 23:3 24:23 25:18 27:10 47:20 61:7 76:21 131:5 138:2,3

basic 87:23 125:20

**basically** 12:25 23:1,13,17 24:20 31:24 32:3 44:18 53:12 55:6,10, 15 57:7 59:21 60:7 61:25 66:10 69:6 76:8 77:20,23 79:11 84:22 85:8 92:21 93:3,11,18 96:22 106:2,8,12 127:5 137:5

**batch** 43:18

Bates 42:20 52:18 57:20 101:13

bear 16:11 42:10

began 6:2

begin 24:17 25:4 82:7,13

beginning 16:8 73:11 84:8 85:8, 12 88:1,14 98:24 126:23

**behalf** 6:15 8:8,20,24 19:18 71:24

believed 55:12

**Bellar** 45:16

beneficial 24:4

**Betty** 62:13,18

**big** 43:18,19 80:23 88:5

**bit** 23:10 42:24 85:5 88:25 90:4. 12 103:11 135:17 137:16

**Boaz** 68:21 69:2,3 91:10 97:12

**books** 136:16 born 90:6,8

brainstorming 70:8,9

Brandon 45:16

**Bravo** 96:18

breach 74:10

break 52:9,16 53:18 77:21 88:22, 23,24 89:1,11,14 97:21 101:4,8 104:23

**briefly** 9:6 140:7

**bring** 70:11

bringing 74:22

broad 22:9 48:21

broader 47:22 48:19,20

brought 75:18 133:19

**Brun** 46:7 54:10 56:12 57:3 96:25

built 104:25 **bullet** 74:3.9

**bunch** 51:8

business 54:14 56:24 58:25

61:14

C

calculated 110:12

calculates 109:23

calculating 66:17

call 12:15 126:14

called 61:25 69:15

camping 85:3

capitol 63:2

capturing 116:21

care 137:24 138:7 139:1

Index: audits..checklist

Carolina 90:9,17

Carolyn 79:8,10,11

case 10:12 19:19 20:8 46:24 67:24 69:19 90:3 119:20

cases 25:25 92:21 93:12 95:9

99:17 122:2

caught 97:12

caused 47:8

celebrations 136:12

cell 72:3

center 45:14 65:17 95:19 96:13 103:25 104:3 107:8 110:21 133:8

Central 74:22

**Century** 122:22

certifications 95:7,10

chair 36:4.5

challenges 129:15

challenging 129:3 130:17

**chance** 70:18

**change** 23:5 25:17 27:7 29:25

57:13 60:3

changed 50:14

charges 37:22

Charlie 96:18

chart 65:21,23,24 66:1 123:19,24 124:10,14,22,25 130:4

charts 66:3 123:22 126:4

**Chas** 91:14

**chat** 39:21 43:10,20 56:3,4 58:16 62:10 65:15 67:3 68:11 70:16 82:22,23,25 83:8,22 84:14 85:16 87:15,18 101:10,11,12 105:12

**chats** 83:10

check 48:18 82:9 86:6,10 139:22

checklist 44:20

**chief** 30:20,21 48:2 57:5 60:22 78:17

choose 23:7

Chris 57:3 91:12 96:25

Christmas 74:13

Christopher 46:7 54:10 56:12

circumstances 14:18 25:21

62:1

citizens 103:3

clarification 8:16

clarify 36:21

classification 124:5 125:5

134:9,19

classified 42:7

clear 37:6 47:13 86:17 109:19

124:22 132:23

**close** 79:21 80:2 131:16

**closing** 131:16

**closure** 128:18

clothing 136:16

Clute 68:21 69:3 91:10

**CMO** 46:7,8

co-in-charge 83:14,20

co-in-charges 69:4

colleagues 105:21

collect 23:18 87:25

collecting 85:13 88:9

collection 87:16

collective 42:25 87:9

Colorado 86:23

Columbia 90:9

Colvard 91:12

comment 51:23 86:13 99:19,23

109:1 114:24

**comments** 25:13,17,19 99:15,20

109:1 114:24

**commissioner** 58:18 59:7 61:1,

2,3 67:22 68:1 75:23 110:8

commitment 109:8

**committee** 19:24 36:3

committees 92:22

communicating 55:16

**communication** 39:18 48:17

communications 45:2 102:19

**community** 108:1 109:10,14

127:1

company 61:15

compared 28:24 131:3

compile 69:21

complaint 10:12

**complete** 42:1 106:4 112:4

132:16 140:12

**completed** 123:15 126:4 134:5

completely 102:18

**compliance** 12:16 20:16,19 28:12 44:19 45:24 48:4 49:3

93:12,19 109:18,24 110:3,12,15,

18 111:6

complied 20:22

complies 7:21

comptroller 19:15 22:6 24:13

25:10,11 32:4 35:8 36:23,24 59:8, 11,16,17,21 62:19 63:20,21 64:12

65:4 67:24 73:17 99:1,4 100:19 103:4 110:11 120:19 122:6

129:16,23 134:4,8,11 135:2 136:6,19 137:11,23 138:8

comptroller's 6:16 7:6 8:9,20,23

13:8 14:7,10,13 19:14 22:11 27:23 29:13 32:20 34:1 36:22

37:5,6 39:2,3,18 41:15 42:3 47:17

49:9,20 50:18 51:3 52:8 54:15 56:25 59:1 63:2,5 81:20 82:1

83:4,7 91:20 104:2

computer 43:17 71:13,23

concentrating 85:4

**concern** 61:8,13,15,19 74:11

75:13 88:5 134:23 135:6

concerned 47:21

concerns 25:15 40:3 76:21 97:5

102:25

conclude 34:24 99:10 130:24

conclusion 32:24 114:6

**conclusions** 15:1 16:7 24:23,25

Index: chief..control

25:1,7 27:10,17,18 45:11 53:6,11 82:11 134:1

concur 100:14 108:22,23 115:2

concurred 100:13,15 101:1

conditions 34:14,16 35:2 41:16

conduct 92:12

conducted 31:20

conducting 49:23

conference 85:7

confuse 86:1

connection 92:9 94:10 95:2,7,11

104:7

consideration 93:16

consistent 65:3

consistently 117:8 132:8,24

133:12

consult 89:8,18 92:8

contact 39:23 103:6,9 104:3

contacted 104:4,5

contained 34:6,16 35:1 38:13

71:8

continual 109:8

continue 19:24

contraband 18:23 138:15

139:12

**contract** 20:16,18,19,22 21:4,7, 13,22 28:11,13,18,20 30:13 40:20

44:13,19 45:3,18 46:9 48:17 49:2,

25 50:15,23 56:13 59:23,24

61:23,24 64:8 65:1 67:20 74:9,10 75:2 79:14

**contracted** 20:6 21:25 45:21 61:17 74:21,24 75:16

contractor 47:25 50:3 61:10

**contracts** 21:10,11 22:8 23:16 45:22,25 48:24 59:8,12 60:8

contractual 60:12

control 42:12 54:19 97:1

61:19 62:13 64:6,9 123:2

controls 109:11 119:25

**conversation** 84:19 102:23

**conversations** 38:23 39:3,5 41:14 42:3 63:22 65:3

convey 106:1 111:4

cooperate 98:19

cooperative 41:23 140:10,13

coordinator 95:17

**copies** 42:22

**copy** 35:12 57:3 94:19 99:13 105:14

Corecivic 6:13 20:8 21:6 28:7 29:15,25 30:9,17,19 31:8,12 34:7 39:4,19,24 40:9,23 41:10 55:14 59:9 60:1 61:9,17,18 62:3,13 64:6 71:16,24 74:19 75:17 79:13 90:2 94:23 98:9 99:23 100:5,7 107:11 116:8,11 117:16 118:21 120:5 121:2,13 122:17,18 123:5,7,10,13 126:23 127:12 128:15 129:16,18, 24 130:6,9,24 132:6 133:11 139:11

**Corizon** 122:22

corner 43:5

corporate 41:10

correct 7:19,24 8:11,21,25 11:13,16,19,24,25 12:9,10 13:12, 21 16:5 20:10 22:4,12,23 29:4 33:24 39:16 41:12 44:17 45:14 46:1,5 48:1 49:7,14 50:9,16 51:10 55:6,9 56:6,14,15 57:17 58:20,22, 23 60:10 61:24 64:20 65:12 67:9, 12 68:4,18,23 70:21,22,25 72:16, 17 73:22 74:2,16 79:19,23 80:16 81:11,16,17,21 90:23 91:18,22 94:8 95:20 96:1 99:7 101:22 103:2 105:12,19,23 107:12 108:3, 19,21,24 109:4,5 110:10,14 114:2,16,18 115:1,25 116:16,25 117:14,23,24 120:3,15,17,18 121:3,9 122:15,23,24 123:23 124:24 128:2 130:11 132:1 133:15 134:2,7,10,15,22 135:5,9, 21,23 136:18

corrected 119:8

**correction** 19:20 20:18 26:11 27:1 31:25 46:19 49:7 57:5 60:25

64:2 66:2,21 74:12 79:12 81:8 91:6,21 99:6 100:1,2,6,13 102:4 105:18,22 106:22 108:19 109:2,6, 7,23 110:4,12 111:11,23 114:25 116:4,6,19 119:23 120:6 121:2 128:22 130:13 131:21 132:12 134:4 136:20 137:14 138:4 140:9

correction's 112:15

**correctional** 17:5 21:19 45:13 65:17 66:13 95:19 107:24,25 109:19 110:21 117:17 121:13 123:13 124:19 129:17,20 133:11, 13.19 135:2

**corrections** 15:6 17:10 21:15 36:22 39:13,14 65:2 67:22 75:21 77:17,19 78:18 91:24 92:2,5,9,13 94:15 95:1 100:17 103:1,7 120:22 128:23 129:2,3 131:8

Corrections' 111:5

**corrective** 32:2,5 50:3 81:8 82:11

correctly 37:17 46:4 50:19 56:10 58:19 62:14 64:10,19 65:19 68:22 73:19 74:15 78:9 79:22 81:10 84:3 103:1 108:2 109:20 111:2 112:6 115:17 116:1 120:2,14 121:16 122:9 123:17 128:19 129:13,21 137:19

**counsel** 7:25 53:15 72:2

**count** 46:3,14,15,16,22,23 47:11, 13.14 48:15 91:16 97:8

counties 74:25

**county** 45:17,18,21 59:14 60:13 74:24 126:23 127:5

court 6:3 16:19 71:21

**covered** 71:3 96:21 129:17 130:10 131:4,6,14,18,19

covering 129:24

create 47:2 110:5

**critical** 29:1 55:11,12 111:18 129:18,24 130:1,6,10,18 131:4,18

critique 110:11

crossing 97:11

curious 85:20

current 23:19 34:2 66:6

custody 115:4

cycle 19:21,22

D

Index: controls..decided

daily 30:19

**damages** 59:12,13 61:25 62:2 64:7 66:11,15

dash 124:22

dashes 124:15

**data** 24:22 94:5 107:5 113:8 116:7 120:1,13 121:6,8,9 131:6

database 15:20

**date** 9:11 20:3 33:20,25 83:16 125:21

**dated** 44:8 46:2 49:16 56:6 58:18 62:12 67:8 68:17 70:20 73:18 76:1 78:11 103:12

dates 33:16

daughter 85:2

**David** 13:6 83:13 86:1 91:14 102:14

day 40:22 96:6 98:3 127:4

**days** 31:25 32:1 66:14 98:1 127:2 132:7,16,17,22

DC 57:4

De'aundrea 68:20,24 91:11

deal 103:6

dealing 77:13,14 88:13

dealings 58:25

deals 122:22

dealt 50:8

death 115:14,16

deaths 31:8,13 112:5 115:4

**Debbie** 63:9,24 64:1,4

**Debra** 58:21

debriefed 40:2

**December** 68:17 74:12

decide 19:24 78:2 100:4

**decided** 40:5 75:3

decision 24:11 deconstruct 52:5 defendants 6:11,13 90:2

**Defense** 103:25 104:3

deficiency 48:3

define 77:1

degree 90:16,17 deleted 74:11 delivery 109:13 Deloach 91:13

demonstrated 109:8

**Dena** 13:17 73:21,23

department 14:25 15:7 19:20,25 20:2,4,15,17,20 21:15 22:5 23:21, 24 24:16 25:12,14,16,23 26:11,14 27:1,7,11 28:9 29:15 30:20 31:25 32:2,25 33:2,14,15 34:15 35:11, 12 36:12,17,20,21,24 37:5,7 38:16,22 39:1,2,3,8,11,13,14,18 41:14 46:10,18 47:16,17 48:9 49:3,6,7 57:5,12 59:24 60:7,9,24, 25 61:17 64:2,24 65:2 66:2,17,21 67:22 75:21 77:16,19,23 78:18 79:12 81:7 83:3,6 91:6,21 92:19, 20,21 93:4 99:6,13,18,22 100:1,2, 6,13,17 102:4 103:1,7,8 105:5,18, 22 106:4,21 107:24 108:9,19 109:2,5,7,23 110:4,12 111:5,11, 16,23 112:15 113:10,15 114:6,24 115:13 116:4,5,11,18 117:16,19 119:23 120:6,7,8,9,12,22 121:2 122:19 123:2,16 128:21 130:13 131:21 132:12 134:3,9,12 136:20 137:14 138:4 140:9

**department's** 95:17 106:7 107:22 108:1 109:18 112:4 137:6

departments 22:22 92:16,25

**depend** 96:19

depending 33:15 96:11 depends 19:9 25:22 94:4

**DEPONENT** 140:19

deposed 6:20

**deposition** 6:1,6,8,11,14,17 7:10,12,23 8:4 9:5,14 10:2,10,15, 16,24 11:8,12,15 14:23 16:18 57:20 71:25 81:13

descriptions 117:8

**designated** 8:7 11:20 12:1 80:2

**detailed** 23:8 24:18,19 102:14

117:10

detention 92:3 determine 23:2 detrimental 61:8

develop 24:21

developed 44:17 109:11

developing 55:15 69:7 106:19

dictate 18:18 difference 122:1

difficult 42:24 111:15 129:6

137:8

difficulties 88:14 129:19

direct 39:17 directed 120:6 direction 36:12 directions 37:2

directly 39:7 74:25 104:4,6 107:3 114:4

disagree 108:23 119:12,17 disagreed 100:18,21,22 disagreement 119:16

disaster 16:11 disbelieve 119:18 disciplinary 117:4 discretion 99:25

discuss 24:3,25 48:3 69:10 78:14,23 103:7

discussed 30:7 67:19 108:18

discusses 135:19

discussing 16:15 63:4 85:1

discussion 11:4 44:1 52:14,16

discussions 70:11

dispense 53:15

division 110:3 111:13 120:10

document 12:6 16:12 43:2 44:3.

67:2.4 70:15 75:25 77:4 78:11 81:5 101:12,13 105:20 114:14,15 137:17,18

Index: decision..Dwight

documentation 25:23 85:13 112:9,11 114:12 115:24 116:14, 24 120:20 121:18 122:7,8 123:21 124:2 125:2,24 134:23 136:23 137:12 138:2

documented 28:24 40:25 41:2 45:8 121:16 124:7,8 125:19 137:8,13,19

documenting 25:7 44:15 49:22 86:16 88:8 113:24 116:22 122:3, 14 123:21

documents 42:6 43:14,18 51:9, 14,16 52:3 95:2 123:15,16 140:11

dollars 22:6 door 97:9,19 dosage 127:21 dot 101:21

**Dotson** 75:20 76:1,9,13,22

double-check 121:25

**Douglas** 13:25 91:13,15 96:4 101:20 102:1 103:12

downloaded 54:20

**draft** 16:3,4 25:3,6,8,11,12 99:13

drafting 25:4 55:2

drafts 15:10,11,12,24,25

draw 24:23 **drawn** 53:11 drew 114:6 **drop** 56:3 82:23

drug 49:16,17,18,23 124:2 125:10 135:20

drugs 18:22 **due** 118:24 **duly** 6:20

duplicate 84:2 **Dwight** 63:10 64:4

6,10 56:1 58:9,10,17 60:4 65:16

Ε

e-mail 43:9,23 54:8,13,18,25 55:4 56:6,19,23 57:2,18 58:24 59:3 62:12,21,23 63:9 64:3,13,22 68:17 69:14 71:17 72:3 74:4 77:11 79:7,15 80:19 101:20 102:21 103:12,21

e-mailing 55:1,6 102:22

**e-mar** 126:25

earlier 81:13 102:23 108:18

easier 52:2 easy 129:2 editing 25:8

educated 119:7 education 96:14

educational 12:11

effective 109:14 119:25

efficiency 93:7

efforts 130:25 136:24

Eighty-two 121:11

**electronic** 126:23,25 127:2,3,16,

25

**Elimination** 122:12 133:18

emphasized 74:13

**employed** 13:7 14:6,9,13

**employee** 19:7 102:2 136:2

**employees** 46:6 98:9,12,13 120:5 139:5 140:9

encouraged 41:24

**end** 16:8 40:1 55:19 69:6 88:23 89:24 93:17 96:6

engagement 24:16

**ensure** 20:22 21:2,9,13 22:6 48:10 49:1 50:13,16,23 86:8 93:19 109:12 114:7 116:11 117:16 121:12 123:14 131:18

**ensured** 129:17

**enter** 25:3 47:12 113:7 114:11,19 118:14

**entered** 46:17 47:1,14 113:1,10,

19 116:13 117:12,18 121:23

**entering** 47:22 114:7 116:17,20 117:1,5,22 119:7 122:4

**enters** 132:13

entire 37:21 84:14

entirety 22:14 99:14

entity 88:3,9

entrance 85:7

environment 92:2 128:23 129:3

Erin 6:12 71:13,23 90:1 126:13

error 118:25

**errors** 120:1 124:18,20,23

evaluating 21:3 45:4

evaluation 25:25

evaluations 112:1 124:4 125:3

evening 46:15

evidence 25:8,22 55:7

exact 9:10 17:15 51:6

**EXAMINATION** 6:22 89:25

140:6

examine 137:24

examined 6:20

exams 124:3 125:3

Excel 79:20,25

exceptions 101:21

exclusively 121:1

**Excuse** 128:14

executing 32:5

**exhibit** 8:4,5,13 11:7,9 16:17,20, 22,23 26:9,16,18 42:17,18,25 53:16 54:5,6 55:23,24 58:5,8,16 62:4,7,11 65:7,13 66:24 67:2 68:9,10,12 70:12,14 72:1,6,12,24 73:2,9,16 75:25 76:3 77:3,6 79:4, 6 80:25 81:1,4 82:15,17 87:9,11 105:9

exist 111:16

expectations 48:3

experience 91:24 98:16

experienced 102:25

experiencing 129:19

explain 99:9 105:25 126:21

Index: e-mail..faster

132:10

explaining 61:6

explanation 119:21

extensively 48:3

extra 28:10,13

extreme 60:12

F

**F-I-N-A-M-O-R-E** 7:3

face 12:5,7

facilities 19:16 20:5,9,12 22:3 28:11 37:23 49:4 64:6 79:13,16 94:21,22,23 106:20,23,24,25 107:2,4,6,7,10,11,24 110:5 111:10,14 113:16,18 114:7 117:17 118:13 123:13 128:16 129:1,6,7,10,17,18 130:2,10,13 131:21 133:14 134:4 136:20

facilities' 121:13

facility 18:2,11,13,14 19:5 20:19 22:1 28:14 37:14 39:23 40:9,10 41:4,25 44:9,22 45:19,20,24 48:25 53:7 80:2 88:7 92:3 93:14 96:9,11,15,21 97:5,7,23 98:11 109:19 110:13 111:18,20 116:12 124:19 132:6,8,13,14,17,22 133:11,19 134:5 135:3 136:19 137:24 138:15.18 139:13

facility's 109:24

**fact** 74:19

factors 24:9

failed 107:23

**failing** 117:21

**failure** 113:13

**fair** 28:4 92:23 99:1 100:22 118:20,21 127:24

**fall** 92:22 111:10

familiar 10:10 66:22

fantastic 58:3 80:21

**faster** 90:13

favorite 97:21

February 76:2 78:11

**federal** 122:12 133:17

**feel** 12:2 28:4 87:22 88:20 106:5 107:17 108:4

fewer 18:11

**figure** 39:16 43:11,20 48:22 53:24 54:3,18 80:20 85:22

**file** 52:20 58:10 81:20 114:19 128:5 132:10 133:1 134:21

filed 33:6 75:10

**files** 15:19 41:25 53:2,9 123:15 124:6,8,9 125:1,10 132:20 134:12 135:4

filled 55:8 66:12

final 15:10 16:3 25:20

finalize 26:1 99:12

finalized 37:9

finally 23:7

**Finamore** 6:16,19 7:2,4 11:6 17:18 26:20 54:11 56:5 62:14,16 90:1 101:8 140:7

finance 119:23 120:7.9

**financial** 21:21 60:22 66:20 78:17

**find** 40:11 92:24 93:9,12,23,24 94:1,6 98:8 106:3 129:23 131:4 140:7

finding 30:3,4 39:6 40:6 87:23 105:25 106:2,13,17 107:22 108:5, 8,11,15 109:6,17,22 110:10 112:3,8 113:12,15,23 114:4,14 115:10,11,19,23 116:10 117:15 118:9 119:22 120:11 121:10 122:6,16,20 123:9,12,20 125:23 126:2,3,12,19 128:11 131:3,20,25 132:5 133:3,4,5 138:8,12,14,17, 20,22,25 139:2,4,8,11,15,19

**findings** 14:25 25:7,18,22 26:1 27:19 28:7 29:24 30:2 32:22 37:7 38:24 39:4,8 40:4 45:11 55:18,20 82:10 99:7,16,24 100:3,8,12,18, 23 102:16 105:25 108:14,20 110:6 111:18,22 117:1

fine 53:20 88:13,24 89:13

**fines** 60:12,16 61:4,7,15,22

finish 31:24

finished 67:15

finishing 99:11

fiscal 110:23,25 111:6 120:13

five-minute 53:18 89:11

**fix** 40:12

**fixed** 48:5

fixes 48:10

flip 78:8

**focus** 24:20 29:22 69:12 93:8 96:15 98:25 107:5 109:22

focused 49:11

focusing 94:13

follow 77:25 108:5

**follow-up** 31:19,20,22 32:25 33:4 36:16 74:12 75:13 81:8,12, 15,19,23 102:19 133:22 140:15

**Fonda** 13:25 91:15 96:3 101:20 102:1,2,22 103:12

foregoing 6:1

form 17:13,21 18:4,5,15,24 19:8 23:9 29:10,18 33:12 34:18,19 35:6 36:19 38:5 41:17 47:3,4,9 50:5,21 60:14 72:4 80:6 82:2 93:1 94:3 98:15 108:12 109:25 114:3, 17 119:2,10 121:19 124:16 125:6, 11 126:6 127:18 128:3 129:4 130:15 131:1,24 132:9,15,19,25 134:25 137:1,15 139:6,17

**forming** 38:17

**forms** 124:5 125:5 134:6 138:6

formulating 51:4

forward 85:1 119:8

forwarded 63:9 64:3

forwards 64:12

**found** 18:23 40:3 113:7,9,16,17, 19 115:8,21 124:8 132:21 134:4, 8,11 135:2,14,16

fraud 93:9

**free** 87:22 88:20 96:22 107:17 108:4 138:5

Freidman 103:22 104:10,13,18

Index: favorite..groups

Friedman 105:2

**front** 35:24 43:3 44:3 58:7 65:7 68:8 73:2,16 77:2 81:5 97:11 105:13,15 107:14

front-line 12:25

fully 109:6 126:4 130:13

function 82:25

future 50:14 86:2.23

G

**g-mail** 101:21

gained 76:25

gather 24:22

gave 85:2 100:7 111:8,14,23,25

**general** 24:5 27:16 33:16 35:10, 18

general's 9:13

**generally** 19:25 26:7 52:25 86:19 98:4 106:3

generated 91:7

get all 127:10

giant 43:19

**give** 10:21 11:1 25:17 42:11,20 54:17,22 59:17,22 60:6 65:1 96:25 105:6 127:22

**giving** 8:19,22 55:7 62:24 127:19

**glance** 70:18

**good** 6:3,23,24 37:16 65:6 86:9 101:8 137:16

governmental 19:23 35:15 36:3

governor's 63:15

grace 10:22

**great** 7:22,25 12:5 15:9 43:14 54:21 57:24 78:7 79:3 80:17 82:6 85:24 89:21

greatly 57:21

**Greg** 13:25 56:13,16

group 49:3 74:13 86:2,3 102:25

**groups** 103:6,9

identified 69:11 **grow** 90:7 140:13 **grunts** 103:18 **helping** 102:18 identify 23:6,21 24:2 52:18 57:19 93:7 106:13 133:22 Guaranteed 16:11 **Herzfeld** 6:7,22 8:3,6,14,18 11:3, 5,10 16:17,21,24 17:14,17,22,25 illnesses 117:18 118:15 guess 8:14 9:6 15:19 19:2 21:5, 18:6,10,16,20,25 19:4,13 26:16, 13,22 24:9 39:16 46:23 48:16,20 imagine 89:9 19 29:11,19 30:5 33:13 34:20 59:25 61:10 66:16 77:12 88:5 **IMOF** 76:10 35:7 36:23 37:3 38:6 41:20 42:16, 100:4 104:15,20 105:4 111:21 23 43:1,11,19,24 44:2 47:7,15 115:25 122:3 124:19 137:18 **impact** 19:6 106:7 50:6,25 52:1,12,15,24 53:17,22 guessing 94:1 54:5,7 55:22,25 57:15,24 58:3,6 impacted 115:15 60:17 62:5 65:14 66:25 68:11,15 quidance 59:18 implement 119:25 70:13 71:11.19 72:9.11.25 76:4 77:7 79:5 80:10,18,23 81:2 82:5, guys 89:13 implementation 95:12 18 87:12 88:11 89:2,5,10 90:12 implications 137:19 93:1 94:3 98:15 108:12 109:25 Н 114:3,17 119:2,10 121:19 124:16 importance 137:21 125:6,11 126:6,13 127:18 128:3 half 77:17 **important** 21:8 24:5 38:14 53:12 129:4 130:15,19 131:1,24 134:25 137:20 135:18 137:1,15 139:6,17,25 hallway 97:13 140:15,17 improved 130:6 handed 11:7 hey 39:20 71:10 83:25 **improvement** 92:24 93:9 handle 78:3 98:14 127:12 138:9 highlighted 74:7 improvements 109:9 handling 138:13,15,18 highlighting 85:25 in- 37:21 hands 90:13 **highly** 109:11 in-charge 12:22,24,25 13:4,10 happen 48:8 26:22 hinder 23:23 happened 29:7 32:23 48:12 68:5 in-charges 12:20,22 13:2 25:9 hindering 93:14 78:25 97:17 117:10 126:22 137:6 91:10 hiring 129:19 happening 49:1 54:24 59:3 88:6 inaccurate 72:19 120:12,23 history 23:17 happy 43:12,22 88:15 incident 70:4 114:13,14,15 hold 12:8 58:12 67:16 116:12,13,22 117:1,10,11 120:13 harassment 121:15 136:21 137:3,7 holding 117:4 hard 47:10 52:8 incidents 88:6 112:6 113:25 holds 15:20 Hardeman 59:14 60:13 74:23 115:21 116:14,22,24 117:7,22 79:16 107:9 126:22 127:4 Honestly 85:18 118:23 119:7 135:14,16 138:23 head 34:9 hoping 42:8 include 20:5,8 69:13 **health** 92:19 112:25 117:17 hour 53:17 89:4 included 29:8 49:21 51:18 53:2 123:3,15 124:3,4,5 125:3,4,5 80:14 **hours** 9:9 19:11 98:3,5 117:2 137:24 138:6,7 139:1 127:10 including 11:21 91:17,23 92:1 **hear** 19:25 59:10 housing 61:18 incomplete 120:12 heard 71:12 Human 103:24 104:3 incorrectly 115:25 126:7 hearing 36:10,13,18 37:4,10 59:6 **hundred** 110:19 increase 19:11 74:12 75:13,15 117:4 134:9,14 hundreds 125:1,9 126:3 increased 128:17 **hearings** 36:6,9 75:19 104:15 increasing 120:1 Heather 91:15 Т independent 22:1 held 15:12 indicating 32:4 **ideas** 70:1,2,5 **helpful** 24:6 41:22 98:9,12 133:5

Index: grow..indicating

FINAMORE, VINCENT on 06/17/2021 Index: individual..labeled individual 8:8 instructions 11:18 138:6 J individuals 14:6 91:16.23 92:1 intended 105:25 111:4 125:18, industrial 12:13 91:3 Jackson 91:12 interacted 41:19 industry 17:11 Jaclyn 68:21 69:3 74:1 78:22 interactions 103:8 105:5 91:10 influence 61:10 interest 61:18 102:24 Jafar 14:5 **information** 15:18 17:7 23:18 27:11 30:6 34:15,25 38:21 41:23 interested 37:25 iail 92:2 46:21 47:22 51:18,21,24 55:17 internal 49:4 86:6 109:11 110:2.3 January 26:10,25 36:10 44:8 60:16,19 76:25 79:17,24 81:24 111:13 119:25 46:2 49:16 70:20 73:18 91:7 88:9 98:17 102:19 105:4,6 106:25 105:18 internally 83:8 110:7 112:5,16,18 113:11,14,20 114:7,11,20 115:15,16 116:1,6, Jeanie 101:20,21 102:22 103:12 internet 127:5 13,18,20,21 117:5,23 118:6 **job** 19:14,17 20:2 21:3 86:9 92:23 120:21,23 121:1,5,7 122:5 124:7, interpret 102:18 10,18 127:11 131:8 140:11 jobs 22:5 interpreted 103:19 informational 106:17 **Joe** 6:12 71:14,17 90:1 139:22 interrupt 20:24 31:2 126:13 infraction 44:18 **Jordan** 79:8,10,11,15 interview 23:20 76:25 78:14,15 Inglis 63:9,24 64:1,4 79:1 104:6 105:8 **jotting** 70:10 initial 124:2 125:10 133:21 interviews 38:3,10 judges 77:20,25 78:2 injuries 113:2,6,14 117:18 introduce 6:5 iudaments 33:3 118:15 investigate 138:23 **Julie** 74:12 injury 113:20 investigating 121:14 **July** 81:9 inmate 18:3 31:8,13 46:17 96:12 investigation 33:10 122:4 136:5 jump 130:5 135:17 97:22 104:16 120:12 123:15,21 124:6,7,9 125:1,22 126:9,24 investigations 34:2 jumped 133:3 132:6,9,13,15,18 133:12,18 **investigators** 37:12,14,15 June 6:4 33:24 134:5,12 135:4 involved 12:15 40:18 51:13 **Justin** 63:9,19 64:4 inmate's 115:14 134:21 102:3,6 115:22 inmate-on-inmate 138:9 involvement 104:14 Κ inmates 46:14 80:2 97:11,13,15, **issue** 25:18 44:14 46:20 47:2.22 18 107:25 124:12 125:18 126:1,5 keeping 61:9 50:8 55:14 70:4 72:7 80:8 93:10 127:9,14 134:8,13 136:7,10,13 96:20 102:18 106:3,5,18 112:8,11 139:1,5 key 23:20 115:23 116:17 117:9,21 120:19 input 38:16 73:17 121:4,8,9,18,22 123:20 125:9 **kind** 16:8 39:21 42:9,12 43:17 52:2 84:6 86:9 87:23 92:11 126:1 127:14,24 136:2,23 inquiries 41:21 109:22 issued 35:8 42:4 **inside** 17:19 knew 52:2 **issues** 20:1 28:12 34:23 40:3,7 instance 93:22 knowing 118:25 69:10 92:24 93:11,23 96:11 instances 55:4 97:15 132:21 102:24 106:12 124:15 125:1.24 knowledge 17:11 28:6 29:13

item 44:15 48:18 institutional 132:10 134:12,21

135:12

items 44:19 69:8 123:25

instruct 98:13 instructed 98:17

Institute 95:2

135:4

labeled 15:24,25 40:5

L

30:7 31:9 92:4

lack 47:8

**Landers** 60:20,21 61:6 78:14,16,

17

large 43:24

late-filed 8:5

law 92:22

lawsuit 10:5

lawyer 63:17 94:10

leadership 107:22

leading 97:8

learn 104:13 128:22

learned 104:12 128:24 129:5

**leave** 14:19 139:23

led 97:10

Lee 75:20 76:1

left-hand 43:5

legal 74:14 75:4,8,10

legislative 7:5 74:11 75:13

legislators 88:4

**legislature** 19:18,23 35:23 36:2, 13 37:2 93:15 106:6,16 120:25

legislature's 74:23

**letter** 24:17

level 18:8 48:13 80:3 106:13

137:20

levied 61:16,23 66:10 78:1

levy 77:20

library 96:14

life 103:19 136:7

likelihood 18:22 19:3

**limited** 137:18

liquidated 59:11,13 61:25 62:2

64:7 66:10.15

**list** 35:24 51:6 66:10 80:22

110:18 111:13

listed 101:23 130:3

litigation 15:22

located 46:10 80:19

location 45:13

locations 96:10

lockdown 46:16

locks 43:17

lodge 72:4

long 7:7 9:8 89:3 90:10 96:2

longer 14:12 19:10 30:4

**looked** 28:8 31:14 51:3,5 66:5 70:2 94:17,25 95:13 99:5 124:9

131:6 136:21

loss 120:1

**lost** 127:5

lot 51:24 52:2 61:13,20 88:6,7

94:1 128:24

loud 70:10

Loveless 58:21

lovely 58:15

lowered 60:13

lunch 88:23 89:1,12 101:5

luncheon 101:6

М

macro 48:13

**made** 16:7 25:2 26:2 27:13 28:9, 22 29:15,22,25 30:8,12 31:16 32:8 34:7 35:13 70:3 72:8 85:17

96:5 112:1 131:8

main 93:18

maintain 132:8.18

maintained 116:14

maintaining 21:5 116:23 132:24

major 16:6 27:20 47:21 92:16,21

majority 101:1 129:6 130:2

**make** 8:3 15:7 16:17 25:21,25

29:12 33:3 37:7,16 39:15 40:7 44:16 49:5 57:10 60:3 71:14

73:13 85:9 86:16 90:15 93:18 95:25 99:4,20 106:18

makes 24:11

making 25:24 46:6 88:7 130:25

**management** 23:20 24:3 25:1, 13,17 39:25 40:17,22 41:10 46:18 69:10 70:5 76:11 99:15 107:24

112:16,18 113:11 114:20 115:15

Index: lack..meantime

116:11 118:13 121:12

management's 109:1 114:23

manager 13:15,16,19,20 58:11

73:24

managers 25:9

mandate 48:9

mandates 48:21

manned 29:1

**MAR** 126:24

March 135:24

**mark** 11:7 26:16 42:16 54:5 55:23 58:8 65:7 68:9 75:24 77:3

82:15 87:9

marked 8:5 11:9 16:23 26:18

42:18 49:12 53:24 54:6 55:24 58:5 62:4,6,11 63:8 65:13 66:24

67:1 68:10 70:12 72:24 73:1 76:3 77:6 79:4,6 81:1,4 82:17 87:11

135:12

MARS 125:14 126:25 127:1,2,3,

7,20 128:6

masks 111:19

**Mason** 91:15

master's 12:13 90:21,24 91:2

masters 90:25

match 117:8

matches 79:17

materials 94:8 98:10 136:15

matter 76:1

max 79:21 80:3

Maxwell 6:15 9:3,4 10:3 52:17

meals 136:13

meaning 47:17

means 13:10 77:15 113:4,5

124:17.23

meant 36:23 83:7

meantime 33:8

measure 109:19

media 35:13

**medical** 123:1,2,8,14,21 124:1 125:13,16,24 127:25

**medication** 125:17,22 126:2,5 127:16,20

**medications** 124:4 125:4,19 127:15.22

medicine 126:10

**meet** 9:4,8 23:24 25:14 64:24 78:19 108:2

meeting 9:18,19,24 40:2 41:3 58:17 59:6,16,19 60:19 61:1,2 62:25 63:1,3,4 64:5 67:7,16,17, 18,19 68:6,17 69:5,10,24,25 70:7, 23 71:1,2,4 72:22 73:7,14,15 74:13 76:13 88:24 93:4

meetings 67:21,25 68:2 78:25

**Melissa** 68:21 69:2,3 73:25 78:21 91:9 97:12

member 48:4

members 36:13 91:4,8

memo 32:4 44:14

mental 123:2,15 124:3 125:2,3,4

**mention** 108:6,7,10 112:22 118:16

**mentioned** 75:15 90:14 102:23 106:10 108:13 115:9 135:7

met 78:22 133:24

methodology 23:11 124:11

Metro 104:24 Michael 91:13 Michigan 90:8

**Middle** 90:25

mind 28:2 31:3 54:21

mine 89:16

minimal 128:16 129:11

minimally 135:20 minute 54:22 67:14

minutes 30:11 71:1 89:4 139:23

misleading 120:24

missed 80:24

missing 124:1 125:10

mission 23:24 93:4 106:4,8

108:2

misunderstanding 118:25

122:1

mixing 130:20

moment 34:4 76:24

**Monday** 9:9,17 67:8 70:20 76:2

78:11

money 22:2 61:14,21

**monitor** 28:11,13,19 30:14 40:20 46:9 48:17 49:2 50:1,15,23 56:13

monitor's 44:19

monitoring 21:6 48:23 55:13

monitors 21:4 28:20 44:13 45:3

79:14

month 14:1 113:9

month's 113:7 monthly 66:18

months 32:3 105:22 113:20

morning 6:3,23,24 46:15

move 49:12 55:22 58:4

moved 75:9 90:9 moving 72:12 85:1 multiplier 64:9

Murray 91:15

Ν

**narrow** 24:7 69:12

Nashville 41:11

national 86:11

naturally 19:10

nature 75:17 106:9 138:21

necessarily 108:8

needed 19:11 42:1 96:24 98:10,

11,18 127:9 140:11

negotiate 60:1

**newly** 57:13

news 87:16,20,24 88:4,8

Nikki 89:8.18

non-critical 128:18 131:17

**noncompliance** 44:10,11,12,14, 18,21,24 46:13,20 48:11 49:15, 17,25 51:2 53:1 55:5,13 106:2,8 124:19

Index: measure..object

noncompliances 51:7

noncompliant 44:15 46:24

Northeast 107:8 133:8

Northwest 107:8 133:8

**note** 47:19 49:5 64:8 126:8 130:1

noted 28:23 114:5 126:8 127:7

**notes** 7:16,17,20 8:1,4 32:7,9,11 38:3,7,10,12 67:7,11,13 68:3,4,17 69:15,17,19,20,22 70:1,3,6,10 71:2,3,5 72:16,19 76:7,8,24 78:13,24 79:1

**notice** 7:14 10:16,24 11:11,18 12:2 16:22 134:13

notification 44:9 49:15

notifications 51:2

notified 72:2

**notify** 24:16

noting 45:3

**November** 12:16 16:14 26:3

58:18 62:12 67:8

**number** 46:22 57:20 80:1 98:3 111:18 124:18 129:20

**numbers** 42:21 43:16 46:16

Numerous 22:21

nurse 126:24

nurse's 125:20

**nurses** 123:7

nursing 127:1

0

**object** 17:13,21 18:4,7,15,24,25 19:8 29:10 33:12 34:18,19 35:6 38:5 41:17 47:3,9 50:5,21 60:14 82:2 93:1 94:3 98:15 108:12 109:25 114:3,17 119:2,10 121:19

124:16 125:6,11 126:6 128:3 129:4 130:15 131:1,24 134:25 137:1,15 139:6,17

**objection** 17:12 18:5 29:18 36:19 47:4 72:4,8 80:6 127:18 130:19

objections 71:16

**objective** 23:6 48:14 78:1 134:16 139:7

**objectives** 23:3 24:7,10,12,14, 17,21 48:19 69:8,12 73:18 94:5 134:1 136:11,14,17 138:16,19

**observation** 40:6 114:5,10 115:19 118:10,22 128:8,12,14,15 133:6 134:17 135:10,19,23

**observations** 29:21 38:3 40:3 45:11 46:7 99:18 106:10,11,12 120:16 129:10

**observed** 53:21 89:22 101:6 138:4

obtaining 138:6

occurred 62:2 137:7

occurring 19:3

off-the-record 11:4 52:14 71:21

**offender** 112:18 114:20 115:15 134:19

offenders 109:10

**office** 6:16 7:6 8:9,20,23 9:13 13:8 14:7,10,13 22:11 27:24 29:14 32:20 34:1 36:22 41:11,15 42:3 49:9,20 50:18 51:2,3,9 52:8 54:15 56:25 59:1 63:2,5,15 81:20 82:1 83:4,7 86:7,15,24 104:2,24

officer 60:22 66:13,20 78:18

**officers** 17:5 21:19 77:13,15 129:20

offline 39:21 offset 30:2

one-page 58:17 118:3

one-to-a-hundred 110:16

one-to-ten 110:16 online 126:25 127:11

**open** 10:25 43:10 83:10 101:16

opening 41:3

opens 86:20

operate 77:18

operated 44:9 64:6

operating 21:20 128:16 129:11

**operations** 19:24 21:16 30:20,22 36:3 57:5 109:13

opinions 38:17

opportunities 136:10

**opportunity** 11:14,17 14:22 54:17 55:7 56:21 62:20 72:13 84:13 99:6 100:3

order 106:20

orders 124:4 125:4

ordinary 27:23 54:14 56:24 58:25

organization 86:12

organizational 12:13 91:3

organizations 38:17 103:3

**orientation** 132:7,9,15,17,19,21, 23,25 133:1

originally 90:5

outright 47:5

overlooked 80:25

oversees 79:14

oversight 30:17 39:9 57:7 79:12 107:23

overstaffed 129:1

overtime 128:17 130:2

Ρ

packet 132:19

pages 107:16 108:5 118:4

Palmer 6:12

**paper** 53:2 107:13 114:19 127:1 128:5

**papers** 15:15,16,20,21 35:4 38:8, 13,15 40:16 42:7,9 51:17,19,20, 22 52:4,20 53:5,8,10 58:2 76:20 79:2 80:15,16 86:16,19,25 95:5,

Parker 58:18 59:7,15 61:1,2,3

Index: objection..period

parking 62:24,25

parole 77:13,14,18,22 78:3

102:15,16

parolees 77:21

part 19:20 21:2,13,22 23:8 37:13, 18 39:22,24 42:9 44:18 45:6,23 49:22 53:4 55:1,3 61:24 70:1 74:7 76:10 82:10,12 86:4,5 87:25 88:9 92:23 97:6 100:15 103:9 108:23 109:15 115:2 116:23 118:7 119:3, 20 126:8 136:17

participate 86:11

participated 91:19

participating 22:16 71:25

pass 88:15 100:4

past 66:6

patient 125:20

patient's 127:7

pattern 56:9 57:4,8,11,14

pause 71:18

**PC** 79:21

**PDF** 43:20 57:16,18

peer 86:2,6,14,17,22,23 87:2,6

penalty 64:17

**people** 13:22,23 38:3,9 47:11

49:17 83:2 119:6

percent 110:19,23,25 111:1,19

percentage 109:18 110:17

percentages 111:1

Perfect 31:7

perform 24:22 132:6

**performance** 7:5 14:15 19:17 20:1,3,4 22:21 23:1,12,23 26:10 27:1 69:1 91:5 93:6,14,23 99:3 105:17 109:20

performance-wise 75:5

**performed** 20:14 26:14 27:24 49:20 99:1 135:14,15,16

performing 93:20 103:5 135:19

**period** 44:24 135:8,24

FINAMORE, VINCENT on 06/17/2021 Index: periods..protocols periods 30:1 previously 90:14 91:4 **Polly** 6:12 17:13,21 18:4,15,24 19:8 29:10 33:12 34:19 35:6 38:5 permitted 108:20 primarily 137:12 41:17 43:8,13,22 47:3,9 50:5,21 **person** 9:20 30:21 40:22 47:12 52:23 53:20 60:14 68:13 71:23 **primary** 107:4,5 79:12 82:2 88:18,21 89:4,13,21,25 90:1 prior 22:19 29:23 30:2 82:10 93:21 94:7 98:20 101:2,7 108:17 personal 38:2 131:3,9 110:9 114:9,22 119:5,11 121:21 124:21 125:8,15 126:11,16,18 personally 37:25 66:6 **prison** 17:20 20:6 57:7 74:21 127:23 128:7 129:8 130:16,23 75:3 92:2 97:3 104:20,23 122:11, personnel 132:6 133:11 131:10 132:2 135:1 137:10,22 12,14 133:18 139:16 139:10,21 140:3,16 pertaining 45:10 110:1,6 **prisoners** 21:17,19 population 124:13 **phase** 23:2,13 24:18,19 25:3 **prisons** 21:20,24 30:21 39:9 55:3 107:4 portions 101:3 61:18 75:22,23 77:17 104:24 **phone** 9:20 39:19 72:3 109:9,13 116:7 120:24 **position** 7:4,7 60:11 61:3 66:13 136:3 private 20:6 22:1 74:21 75:3 phrasing 61:12 **positions** 27:7 66:11 118:16 privately 44:9 **physical** 124:3 125:2 138:23 130:25 131:18 physicians 124:4 125:3 probation 77:18 102:15,16 **possibly** 51:7 70:11 82:8 probationer 78:3 pick 39:19 post 31:19,22 32:16 39:5 55:5 **problem** 8:17 111:14,20 113:17 picture 118:2 **posted** 138:7 126:9 127:8 **place** 50:24 59:22 60:6 72:5 93:5 posts 29:1 55:11,12 128:18 problematic 112:6 109:12 116:21 128:5 129:18,24 130:1,6,10,18 131:4,6, placement 134:23 **problems** 40:11 45:3 71:13 93:8 14,17,18 111:15 113:17 125:13 **places** 126:3 potential 23:21 86:2,22 111:20 procedure 99:21 133:23 placing 114:1 procedures 21:2,14 23:16 46:3 **PREA** 95:6,9,11,12,14,15,17 **plan** 32:2,6,18 44:17 55:15 81:8 85:11 93:5 121:14 121:22,23 122:8,9,10,11 133:20 127:12 135:7,13 **process** 19:21 22:13 23:25 25:9 planning 23:2,3,13 53:5 69:6,11, 26:6 31:23 32:16 37:13 39:22 preliminary 73:18 15,17 78:15 84:10,23 88:2 103:10 40:8 41:6,8,18 48:23 66:22 86:3 107:4 preparation 10:2 51:11,13 53:3 87:25 99:9 109:9 110:2 140:8 64:5 78:20 plans 124:5 125:4 processes 109:12 122:4 prepare 7:22,25 played 107:1 **produced** 52:3 57:16,19 87:17 prepared 7:17 12:2 Pleasant-bey 6:8 94:9 **prescope** 68:17 69:5 production 16:2 80:24 87:17,24 pods 96:12,17 present 9:23 41:1 70:5 93:15 professional 86:5 point 23:15 25:5,16 34:12 74:3,9 110:7 75:9 87:21 professionals 92:6,9 presenting 60:15,18 pointed 39:15 program 15:19 122:12 press 88:7 **Pointer** 68:20,24 91:11,12 progress 32:4,18 33:3 presume 66:20 **pointing** 120:19 project 14:2 pretty 43:24 59:14 96:20 policies 20:23 21:2,14 23:16 **properly** 28:24 133:14 137:8

preventing 93:13

85:11 93:5 109:11 116:12 121:14

**policy** 38:9 116:19 117:19

138:4

123:17 132:12 134:9 137:14

prevent 133:13 136:24 139:12,16

previous 28:25 84:24 102:16

138:7

protect 109:12 139:5

protocols 95:12

## **BOZA PLEASANT-BEY vs STATE OF TENNESSEE** FINAMORE, VINCENT on 06/17/2021

provide 25:13,24 41:24 79:16 93:3 98:17 99:12.15 106:14 107:23 109:19 112:4 116:6 139:1

provided 10:14 15:22 41:23 119:21 120:21 131:7 132:15 133:1,2 134:13 136:13

providers 20:6 123:1,8 providing 51:14 140:11

psychology 12:12,14 90:20 91:3

public 35:14,22 109:12 116:6 120:22,25

publication 121:4 publish 99:12,20

**published** 116:5,8 120:12 121:1

publishes 120:22 publishing 120:23

pull 42:21 43:17 131:17

pulled 42:6

**purpose** 19:15 34:3 93:18 137:4

purposes 83:11 pursuant 137:13

purview 93:17

**push** 89:11

**put** 16:21 35:5 42:10,20,25 48:14 53:8,10 58:15 62:10 65:15 67:3 68:11 70:16 76:19 77:2 80:22 81:20 87:15 101:10,11,12 113:13

putting 75:24 85:14 87:8 118:23

## Q

qualify 62:2

quality 86:10,13

quarterly 66:19

**question** 17:14 18:6 48:20 59:10 74:14 75:4,11,12 87:22 111:21 122:1 130:21 139:9 140:2

questioning 89:2

questionnaire 76:11

questions 24:6 25:14 41:7 42:14 53:15 75:16 76:8,15 78:13,23 84:17,23 88:12,15,21 89:18,23

90:3,12 96:7 98:18,23,25 102:20 139:22 140:1.10

quick 128:6

## R

raised 60:13

random 49:23 124:12 135:20

range 52:19 110:15,19 111:17

rape 122:12,14 133:18 139:16

rapist 133:23

**rate** 17:1,2,4,6,9,10,16 59:12 61:7,20 110:7

rates 59:23 60:1,8

re-entry 92:3

reach 103:3 106:13

reaction 41:21

**read** 10:12 46:4 54:17 56:9 58:19 62:14 64:10,18 65:18 68:21 70:19 71:22 73:19 74:15 79:21 81:9 84:3 85:10 103:1 108:2 109:20 111:1 112:6 115:17 120:1.14 121:16 123:17 128:18 129:13,20 133:14

reading 50:7 85:11 88:8 99:3

**reads** 75:1 real 103:19

realize 72:2

reapprove 64:17

reason 35:20 71:7 85:21 100:11 103:17 119:12,17

reasonable 24:4

reasoning 25:24

**recall** 16:6 26:4 27:13,14 30:10, 24 40:23 54:24 57:2 59:4,13 62:23 63:17,18 67:18 74:18 76:21,23 77:10 84:19 87:7 91:9 105:7 138:11

receive 38:16 44:21 72:7 80:11, 13 82:3

received 11:11 51:8 52:7 95:11 126:5 134:8

recent 57:12 98:25 101:12

102:17

recently 57:4 104:21,22

recess 53:21 89:22 101:6

recognize 26:13 54:8 65:24 67:3,6

Index: provide..renegotiated

recollection 72:22

recommendations 45:5

record 7:1 11:3.6 52:12.15 71:20 97:23 101:5 115:14 125:21 127:17,21 137:2

records 83:11 114:19 124:1 125:13,16,17 126:24,25 127:9 128:1

reductions 19:10

reference 17:1 85:10 87:21

referenced 108:14

references 17:2 103:21 110:21

referring 10:17 64:21

reflect 68:5 78:24

reflected 29:2,4,5,16 30:2 40:13

reflection 69:24 72:21

**regard** 30:16

reign 96:22

relate 117:1

related 14:15 17:23 23:22 39:7 113:12,18 127:19 133:6 135:24 136:2 137:4

relating 107:25 112:5

relationship 17:19 18:2 61:11

relationships 75:17

release 32:1

released 35:13 59:6

relevant 105:7

religious 136:7,9,10,12,13,15

**remains** 66:13

remember 9:10 16:9 30:22 40:19,20,21 63:14 83:15 85:18 87:4 95:4 96:4,19 98:6 104:5

rendered 110:13

renegotiated 59:9

renewed 19:22 repeated 129:9

report 11:22 12:16 14:3,23 15:1, 7,10 16:8,14,25 17:3 25:3,4,6,18, 19 29:2,4,6,8,17,21 30:1,2,7,13 31:8,13 32:1,16 33:2,4 34:6,8,17, 22 35:1,5,21 37:7 39:8 40:14 44:11,12,15 49:21 55:2,13 77:4,8 79:17 80:4,7,12 81:9,12,19,24 91:6 94:14 99:4,11,12,14,21 100:2,25 101:1 105:17 106:11 115:10 117:10,12,22 137:3 139:19

reported 81:25 115:5,9 reporter 6:3 16:19 71:21

**reporting** 65:17 70:4 116:1,12 118:23 121:6 136:21,22

**reports** 19:15 32:18 35:8 44:22, 24 48:11 51:4 53:1 80:14 94:20 110:5

represent 6:5,7 90:2 111:7

representatives 103:4

represented 9:1 111:11

request 43:14 56:8 80:8

requested 35:19 59:7

requesting 59:15

require 31:12

**required** 30:18 36:17 41:24 113:10 114:8 116:15 117:5 119:1 123:14,16 133:12 134:9 135:20

requirement 66:12 118:14 133:17

requirements 74:10 115:5 122:13 138:3

requiring 30:18

research 23:4,13,15 69:7 88:3 103:10

reserved 62:25

residential 92:3

resolved 84:25

resources 18:17,21

respect 92:13 102:12 108:11 120:17 125:2

respects 100:18 131:16

respond 99:6 100:3,7 108:20

**response** 25:20 28:7 30:12 34:8 47:24 50:2,7 131:2

responses 27:11 136:24 137:2

responsibility 50:15,22

responsible 48:4 57:6 102:12

rest 53:15

restate 31:10 130:21

restroom 88:22

**result** 18:12 36:17 37:4 59:19 97:17 131:5

resulting 128:17

results 46:22 121:16 122:4

retain 92:5

retained 94:20

retested 49:18

returned 57:9

review 11:14,17 14:22 19:21 23:17 24:7 25:12 26:10,25 27:1 28:25 30:20 44:19,24 54:22 56:19 60:5 62:20 66:4 67:14 70:17 72:13 75:5 84:13,16 85:14 86:2,3, 8,10,15,22 91:5 94:6 95:1,6 99:14 100:24 101:17 102:15 110:2,4 111:8

**reviewed** 32:19,21 33:6 53:3,4 57:8 72:18 87:2,6 94:9,15 132:20

reviewer 86:17,23

reviewers 86:14

**reviewing** 72:6 113:6

reviews 19:18 49:4 86:6 95:6

revision 56:9

rights 103:24 104:3,20

risk 23:3,6 120:1 135:3

risks 23:22

**role** 8:10 12:19,23 13:11,13,18 21:1 45:18 93:2 102:9

roll 58:15

**room** 97:1,8,9

rosters 28:25 30:19 129:25

Index: renewed..section

131:7

routine 103:7

routinely 80:5,8

rule 77:22

run 22:1

S

safe 109:13

**safety** 17:19,24 21:17,18 47:2

92:19 97:5

**SAITH** 140:19

**sample** 124:12

sanctions 77:3,8,13,20,24 78:1

**Sarah** 91:14

satisfactory 32:23

**save** 85:17

saved 85:15,19,21,22

schedule 64:7

scheduled 33:18,19,20

science 90:20

**scope** 46:3 48:9 49:8,19 69:9

73:15 92:12

**score** 109:24 110:13,15 111:6,7

scores 109:18 110:6,7,18

111:13,17,22,25

**screen** 10:19 11:2 16:10 26:11 42:11 43:2 53:25 54:19 62:7 65:11,12 71:14,15 75:24 82:14,19 85:25 87:8,13 113:2,13 114:1,12 118:1,3,5,8,24

**screening** 125:10 133:20,21,22 135:14,15

**screenings** 124:2 133:12 135:7, 13,20

screens 118:7

scroll 103:11

searches 18:11,14,19,21

Secretary 62:19

**section** 52:2 83:25 102:14 120:16 124:11

shut 71:24

side 97:19

sign 132:18

FINAMORE, VINCENT on 06/17/2021 Index: sections..statute **sections** 84:6.11 **signed** 24:13 57:8 132:24 spreadsheet 79:21,25 security 48:2 80:3 Stadelman 91:14 **significance** 47:20 85:16 segregation 96:13 **significant** 34:23 35:4 106:3.9 **staff** 19:10 21:20 25:9 37:21,22 130:2 40:2,8,9,10 41:5,24 47:12 48:4 **self-** 86:5 56:17 68:25 70:23 73:8,10 83:19 significantly 106:7 semi-quick 52:16 102:10,11 107:25 113:1,7,19 116:12 117:17 118:13 119:4 **sir** 17:22 18:16,25 29:20 31:5 **send** 25:11 30:19 31:25 32:2,3 121:13 123:14 128:16,17 129:11, 43:2 44:3 52:25 54:8 57:1 67:4 57:25 72:13 75:20 77:2 81:3 82:6 17 130:25 131:17 134:5 135:3 sending 55:4 57:3,13 sit 30:9 52:9 **staffed** 130:14,18 131:23 sense 22:9 138:20 **staffing** 17:19 28:24,25 47:8 56:9 site 28:20 98:6 57:4,7,11,13 65:16 70:2 128:22 separate 78:11 123:5,6 sitting 31:2 32:12 88:13 129:2,6,25 130:7,17 separated 133:24 situation 127:13 **stamped** 101:13 service 20:6 six-month 81:8.12.19 stand 14:25 27:4 **services** 113:1 117:17 six-page 81:4 standard 21:16 76:10 99:21 set 23:3 24:14 33:16 59:13 60:8 skipped 133:4 standardized 23:8 77:24 setting 24:9 sleeping 85:3 **standards** 21:12,14 settle 23:7 **slowly** 42:11,12 stands 28:1 30:25 46:8 112:17 seven-page 70:15 **smart** 101:4 **Stanton** 62:13.18 sexual 121:15 133:13 software 15:19 46:18 start 22:16 23:12 84:12 88:25 shaking 34:9 solutions 119:24 120:10 started 30:18 85:2 **share** 10:20.22 11:2 16:10 43:9. someplace 40:25 **starting** 84:9 85:9 20 54:3 sort 106:15 shared 35:3 46:21 starts 87:9 101:19 sounds 43:15 78:9 89:15 shelf 134:20 state 6:25 7:6 9:13 17:4 19:16 21:24 22:22 40:9,10 45:22,23 **South** 74:21 90:9 **sheriff's** 104:24 63:2,20 74:20,25 75:2,16 86:24 **space** 62:24 63:1 90:25 92:17 94:24 111:15 116:11 shift 30:19 **speak** 9:12 10:1 11:20 51:5 86:6 117:16 121:13 129:16,18 130:9 shifts 55:8 132:5 speaking 8:23,24 **shore** 96:7 state's 86:13 **specific** 10:9 65:23 108:5,7,10 shorter 89:16 state-managed 123:13 118:5,8 135:10 138:11,12 139:8 shortly 33:20 specifically 14:14 37:25 48:6, **state-run** 128:16 15,18 74:18 100:20 108:15 **show** 7:20 26:9 32:13 42:13 **stated** 118:13 112:12 113:18 122:7 128:25 53:23 62:6 65:6 67:1 73:1 81:3 statement 119:13 125:18 131:22 133:6 statements 99:5 showed 29:1 speculating 64:23 **states** 86:12 **spell** 6:25 **showing** 55:6 70:14 79:6 stating 64:25 **shows** 38:21 124:25 spent 22:2,7

**Spradley** 13:25 56:13,16

**spoke** 9:15 39:7

**spoken** 30:11

**statistical** 115:16 116:2,3 120:13

**statute** 32:14 74:20 75:1 93:13

**status** 75:11

**statutes** 23:16 93:5

statutory 115:5

**steep** 59:14 60:16 61:7

step 84:1

Stephanie 6:15 63:15

**steps** 84:10,23 103:10 139:5,12,

16

**stored** 15:13 **storing** 126:24

strategic 119:24 120:10

stress 19:7,12

**strike** 18:12 109:5 **stuff** 52:4 131:7

subject 56:8 76:1

submit 87:15 submitted 81:9

subsequently 29:7

**substance** 27:18,20

**substantial** 16:9 26:5 27:9 61:21

97:16

substantiated 122:2

**substantive** 16:7 27:21

sufficient 129:19

summaries 134:20

sunset 19:20 20:3 33:16,20,25

92:22

super 37:6

supervises 79:13

supervising 13:22 109:10

supervision 27:16 109:14

supervisor 12:22 13:1

supervisory 13:11,13

supplies 123:7

support 25:23,24 45:6 53:11

supporting 116:14,23

**supports** 53:6 114:5

suppose 64:16

supposed 8:8 46:16 48:22

119:14,19 124:6 125:19

switch 63:7

**sworn** 6:20

**system** 46:18 112:16,19 113:8, 11,21 114:21 115:15 121:23 122:8,9 126:24 127:3,6,17,25

128:5

T

**T-MATE** 15:18 76:20

table 110:18,20 111:12

taking 32:5 50:23 54:21 60:11

140:4

talk 69:11 84:6 103:4 117:25

140:4

talked 9:7,9 81:13 95:17

**talking** 36:22 38:20 46:11 63:3 74:6,17 75:14 85:6 102:24 107:18

118:6

talks 50:2

tally 66:16

**Taplin** 91:14

**Tarwater** 63:10,11,13,17 64:4

tax 22:6

taxpayer 22:2

**TDOC** 6:10 20:5 22:2,13,17,25 26:14 30:12 31:8,12 32:16 33:18 34:2,7 35:22 43:5 44:4 46:6 49:6, 13 50:2 53:24 56:1 58:8,13,16 60:9,11 62:7 63:5,8 65:10 67:2 68:1,9 70:15 73:4,17 75:25 77:4 78:7,11 79:7 81:4,19,25 82:15 87:9 101:13 102:12 107:10

**TDOC's** 89:24

**team** 24:3 39:25 91:5,8 92:5,8 95:23 96:1,9 98:14,17

teammates 95:18

**teams** 86:7

technical 44:1 88:14

technically 74:20 75:2

technology 119:24 120:10

telling 32:8

temporary 128:18

**Tennessee** 7:6 17:5 21:25 63:20 81:7 90:10,25 91:20 92:17 95:1 99:5 100:12 102:4 105:22 106:21 108:19 109:14,23 110:11 111:5, 23 112:18 114:20 115:14 129:1

Index: statutes..to-do

Tennessee's 129:10

130:12 131:21

terminology 37:17

terms 93:6

test 24:21,22,23 53:6,11

testify 12:2

testifying 8:8

testimony 8:19 12:9 27:2 71:22

81:18

testing 49:16,17

tests 49:18,23

**texted** 83:24

**thing** 47:21 70:19 80:20 94:12

97:22 110:16,17

**things** 18:22 20:15 22:24 29:2,5, 7 32:8 36:14 47:20 48:8 70:6 86:17 90:13 94:2 97:15 102:17

117:1 123:21 130:21 137:13,17 **thinking** 69:18 70:9 73:14 74:22

86:21

Thirty 89:4

Thirty-nine 112:21

Thursday 58:18 62:12

time 6:4 9:10 14:19 15:3 23:4,19 24:5,8 25:15 27:8,13 29:22,25 31:14,19 32:1 33:6,11 40:1,4,6 44:24 46:15 48:15 57:10 60:23 62:19 63:21 69:13 70:2 71:25 82:3 83:14 85:12 88:3 89:5,24 94:5 97:7 98:21 101:4,17 104:11, 19 113:5 125:21,22 127:15 131:5 133:2,21 135:8,24 140:4

**timely** 117:4 121:24 122:5,7 135:15

times 14:20,21 78:19,21,22 112:2

title 44:8

to-do 80:22

**today** 6:3 7:10,23 8:7,10,20 9:2, 5,14 10:2 11:12,21 12:3 14:23 27:2 28:8 30:9 51:11

**today's** 11:15 **told** 59:21 136:4

**Tom** 6:10 37:6 52:1 57:15 80:18 88:18 89:5,13 139:25

Tom's 39:15 43:14

**TOMIS** 46:17 47:1,13,22 112:12, 13,14,15,17 113:2,8,14 114:1,11, 15 115:24 116:13,18,20 117:6,12, 19,23,25 118:8,15,24 119:7 134:12

**top** 43:5 70:1 **topics** 11:21,23

total 46:22 66:16 124:13

totals 46:16 48:16

touched 47:23

tour 96:14

transcript 72:7 82:21

transferred 132:13 133:19

transitioning 127:3

**trapped** 97:10,18

traumatic 118:15

treatment 124:5 125:4

**Tricia** 6:7 8:12 36:19 42:19 43:8, 22 71:10 126:16 139:22

**TRICOR** 92:20

trip 96:6

trouble 85:4

Trousdale 11:21,22 12:17 17:6 20:11,14 28:7,14 29:15,16 30:8 34:15,16 35:2 37:18,22,24 38:21, 23 39:4,7 40:18 41:16 45:13,17, 18,21,22 46:10 48:18 56:8 57:10 59:14 60:12 64:8 65:17 66:4 68:1 74:23 78:5,7 79:18 80:5,12 87:21, 24 88:4 94:13,18 95:2,7,11,19,22 104:16 107:9 108:6,7,11,13,16 110:21 111:6,8,23 112:23,25 113:5,6,16,19,25 114:5,10 115:20,22 118:10,22 119:13 120:17 124:25 131:22 133:6 134:17 135:11,13,19,23 136:7

138:9,13,22,25 139:4,15,20

Trousdale's 113:13 138:14,17

**true** 100:16 **TTCC** 57:9

turn 32:17 89:20 107:17 108:4

**turned** 119:4

**Turner** 20:11 45:13 56:8 65:17 87:21 88:4 95:19 107:9 110:21

Turney 107:8 133:8

turnover 17:1,2,4,6,10,16 118:16

**two-page** 44:6 65:16 67:2 75:25 77:4 82:21

**type** 19:6 79:24 110:16,17 124:19

typed-up 67:12

types 22:19,24

typically 53:1 83:10

U

**uh-huh** 10:23 28:15 30:15 31:4 44:7 50:4,10 51:12 54:1 56:2,7,20 58:14 63:11 68:19 69:16 74:5 83:9 87:19 101:15 103:14 105:16 112:24 115:12 117:3 122:21 134:18

**ultimately** 21:24 24:11,23 50:20 55:19 78:2

umbrella 111:11

**unaware** 118:14

**understaffed** 18:13 19:5 129:2,7 131:15

understaffing 18:2

**understand** 7:9 8:9,19,24 29:12 50:19 86:18,21 92:11 111:21 119:14.19 137:6

**understanding** 29:13 45:17 46:12 61:22 78:9 100:25 104:25 118:18 137:9

understood 81:18

unit 96:18 111:8

**units** 111:9

**University** 90:18 91:1

unmanned 130:1

unnerving 97:14

unstaffed 66:13

unsubstantiated 122:2

unusual 27:22 28:2

unwavering 109:8

upcoming 64:5 134:13

**upper** 39:25 40:17,22 41:9 69:10

Index: today..visited

76:11

٧

V-I-N-C-E-N-T 7:2

vacancies 65:16

Vaguely 10:7 84:20

Valeria 91:13

Vandergriff 91:14

varies 23:1

variety 103:9

vary 111:16

verbal 103:18

verify 48:7 55:4 81:24 82:11

126:9 133:1

verifying 33:9

version 67:13 107:13

versus 16:3 52:4 137:24

victims 133:23

view 74:14

Vince 6:16 83:25

Vincent 6:19 7:2 26:20 54:11 62:13.16

violates 78:3

violations 61:23 62:1 66:11

violence 18:3 136:19,22,24,25

137:3,9 138:18,23

vis-a-vis 78:7 visit 96:5 107:3

VISIT 96:5 107:3

visited 95:19 96:12,13,14,17

107:3 130:3

visiting 96:13

W

walking 97:18

**wanted** 59:10 73:13 77:1 78:14 85:3 96:23 99:18

wanting 64:24

**warden** 39:24 40:2,19 41:15,19, 22 42:3 44:16 47:25 49:24 50:8 96:25 97:8,18 98:13,16,21

Ware 14:5

**Washburn** 41:15,19 42:4 47:25 49:24 50:8 98:22

ways 103:19

website 35:14,23

Wednesday 73:18

week 40:1 96:5 97:25 98:2

weekly 77:3,8,13,19

Welborn 6:12 90:2

well-established 109:10

Wes 60:20,21 61:5

West 107:8

Western 90:17

Whisky 96:18

Whiteville 74:24 79:16 107:9

133:8

Wickham 91:13

wide 93:17

**Wilson** 62:19 63:10,19 64:4,12,

21 65:4

Winningham 13:17 73:21,23

wished 60:2

wishes 35:12

Woodall 57:4

wording 27:15,16

words 100:17 114:13

**work** 23:25 24:21,22,23 31:23 40:8,12 43:15 53:5,6,11,13 82:25 84:1,9,22 85:9 86:9 90:13 93:19

98:2,5

**worked** 19:11 63:14 92:2 102:17 104:20

Index: visiting..Zoom

working 15:15,16,20,21 35:4 38:8,13,15 40:16 42:7,9 51:17,19, 20,22 52:3,20 53:2,5,8,10 58:2 76:20 79:2 80:15,16 84:12 86:16, 19,25 95:5,15 102:14

works 43:25

world 48:23

worth 113:7

Wright 13:6,7,14 83:13 91:14

write 14:2 84:5

writing 14:3 25:3,6 55:3 76:18

99:11

written 15:4 76:19

wrong 55:9 57:17

Υ

year 83:22 110:23,25 111:1 120:13

**years** 7:8 19:22 22:11,14 111:6

yellow 74:7

Yolanda 91:13

Ζ

**Zoom** 6:6,9,11,14,17 9:21,22

Briggs & Associates 615/482-0037